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Unlikely alliance forged during a buyout battle



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Our City Editor analyses UB's bid prospects



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England's master surveyor still working to plan

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THE TIMES

SATURDAY MARCH 19 1994



Bond markets have been nervous for weeks and yesterday's meeting between President Clinton and Alan Greenspan brought further falls

Bonds hit by fears of another US rate rise

BY PHILIP ROBINSON AND JANET BUSH

WORLD bond markets suffered another day of nervous selling, largely because Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve, was summoned by President Clinton to the White House for an unscheduled meeting.

The markets, increasingly nervous about US interest rates ahead of the next meeting of the policy-making Federal Open Market Committee on Tuesday, inferred that the President was attempting to interfere with the Fed's independence over monetary policy. The meeting was called at such short notice that Mr Greenspan had to cancel an engagement in Texas. Despite White House statements that interest rates had not been discussed and that the meeting had been routine, the market continued to speculate that the President had attempted to persuade the Fed chairman not to raise rates further. The Fed recently raised its key Fed Funds rate by 0.25 of a percentage point and is widely expected to decide on another rise of between 0.25 and 0.5 per cent on Tuesday.

■ The Bank of England announced that its next auction on March 30 will be a floating rate gilt. This is the first time such an instrument has been used since 1979

Nervousness about US policy rippled through the world's bond and equity markets, depressing gilts in Britain and government bonds throughout Europe. Joseph Liro, a bonds economist with SG Warburg USA, said: "The news of the Greenspan-Clinton meeting unsettled traders in London and it had a knock-on effect in New York."

In London, the FT-SE 100 index closed 37.6 points lower at 3,218.1. The gilts market, having been almost two points lower on US rate worries, received an unexpected fillip from the Bank of England in the afternoon and ended about ¾ of a point lower overall.

The Bank announced that its next auction of government stock, on March 30, would be a floating rate gilt, the first time that such an instrument has been used since 1979.

Market-makers in gilts said the Bank was clearly not prepared to sell gilts — and, therefore, to finance the Government's borrowing requirement — at current, relatively high yields. John Shepperd, chief economist at Yamaichi International Europe, said the Bank was signalling that it thought the gilts market was cheap at current yield levels.

The mood in world bond markets was little better than last month, which saw near-panic selling. Michael Saunders, UK economist at Salomon Brothers, said sentiment was, if anything, "getting even ghastlier". The markets were still being driven by the unwinding of substantial long positions in world bond markets built up last year.

The bond markets have never really regained their composure since the rise in the Fed Funds rate. Many large speculative hedge funds are thought to have got out of bonds but other houses are believed to have left it late to reduce their exposure.

By midday in New York, the bellwether long bond had dropped about ¾ of a point and turnover in the bond market hit almost $40 billion. Traders expected turnover of $60 billion by the end of the day, compared with the $95 billion recorded a month ago when fears of further US rate rises sent bond and equity markets into virtual free fall.

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Societies face squeeze on funding after £400m outflow

BY SARA MCCONNELL AND JANET BUSH

BUILDING societies saw more than £400 million flow out of their coffers last month, just as mortgage demand is picking up, putting pressure on funding demands.

The huge outflow is the fourth in a row and the largest since September 1986, according to the Building Societies Association, and is certain to add urgency to societies' calls on the Treasury to lift their limits on wholesale funding.

The Treasury is reviewing the Building Societies Act, which limits wholesale funding to 40 per cent of total assets. It leaves societies vulnerable to losing their share of the mortgage market if savings do not cover outlays. The BSA is pressing the Treasury to raise the limit to 50 per cent. In the long term, it wants no statutory limit at all.

Net new mortgage commitments rose to £2.9 billion from £1.8 billion last month, while gross mortgage lending was £2.2 billion, against £2 billion. The BSA described this as "encouraging" but conceded that meeting higher demand in the long term could be difficult without raising wholesale limits or boosting savings.

While mortgage lending appears to be picking up, total bank lending points to continuing weakness in credit demand from the corporate sector. British Bankers' Association figures showed total sterling bank lending down £244 million in February, after rising £652 million in January. Growth in lending has averaged £1.3 billion a month.

The main reason for the fall was an unusually large repayment by securities houses of borrowings made late last year to finance very large positions in the bond and equity markets.

Lord Inchyra, director-general of the BBA, said the overall trend in bank lending was down to the levels of last autumn before a surge in the final quarter. "Overall, despite the recent cut in interest rates, there is little demand for funds from the corporate sector, which seems to be obtaining any necessary funding from a combination of improved profitability and continued use of the capital markets."

Societies particularly need wholesale money to fund fixed-rate loans, the area of biggest competition from banks and centralised lenders. Fixed-rate mortgages account for nearly three-quarters of new society lending, says John Wriglesworth, housing specialist at UBS. They account for 20 per cent of total mortgage books.

Mr Wriglesworth said building societies had been hit by a "triple whammy". Low interest rates on deposit accounts meant people had moved their money into equity-based products, particularly unit trust-based personal equity plans. If societies raised rates for savers, they would have to raise loan rates.

Bank of England figures for M4 money supply, including the key bank lending component, were also released yesterday. Lending by banks and building societies to companies and individuals rose only £600 million, against City expectations of a £1.8 billion rise — another sign of subdued credit demand.

After Wednesday's news of a fall in retail sales last month, this heightens concern about confidence, not only in the consumer but also in the corporate sectors. M4 money supply grew 0.9 per cent in February, for an annual rate of 5.9 per cent against 5.5 per cent. However, most of that growth came from the public, not the private, sector.

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BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

WEEKEND MONEY

FLUSHING



Electronic checking mechanisms help Big Brother to flush out people trying to cash cheques against uncleared funds.
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CAMPAIGNING

Companies keen to ease cash flow problems are campaigning to get more of their customers to pay by direct debit
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WISHING



A saver wishing to insure against rising interest rates when buying a fixed rate bond discovers only borrowers qualify
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ROLLING

Investors face increased share dealing costs in July when new Stock Exchange rules on settlement come into force.
Page 32



British Steel to shed 345 jobs

BY PHILIP PANGALOS AND ROSS TIEMAN

MORE than 750 job losses were announced by three companies yesterday, making it a mixed week for jobs.

British Steel is to shed 345 workers from its tin plate operations in South Wales. The closure of older coating lines, enabled by modernisation spending, is expected to lead to the loss of 155 jobs at the company's Ebbw Vale works in Gwent and 190 jobs at Trostre works at Llanelli, Mid Glamorgan.

The first stage of these measures will involve a permanent reduction in manning levels on older coating lines at both works.

The company said every effort will be made to facilitate early retirement and to identify redeployment opportunities within British Steel for the employees affected.

☐ Bridon, the wire and rope maker, announced that it is making 250 white collar workers redundant as part as of restructuring announced earlier.

The restructuring is aimed at streamlining the group's production and expanding its sales overseas. Volunteers will be sought initially. The costs of the redundancies were included in the exceptional provisions of up to £25 million, announced last month.

☐ Ordnance Survey, one of Southampton's biggest employers, confirmed it was losing 175 workers.

The job cuts come in a week when the latest unemployment figures showed a welcome resumption of a downward path, with Wednesday's 38,800 fall in February's seasonally adjusted figures bringing the total to 2.75 million, or 9.8 per cent.

Irish ferry link with Merseyside planned

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A SCHEME to create up to 2,170 jobs on Merseyside through the £74 million development of a ferry terminal and science park at Birkenhead has been unveiled by London & General Property.

Detailed discussions have begun with Merseyside Development Corporation, the site owner, on a "preferred developer" basis.

The core of the scheme would be the construction of a 15-acre roll-on, roll-off ferry terminal, embracing seven acres of land reclaimed from Wallasey Dock. The development would allow ships to come and go at all states of the tide, reducing ferry times to Ireland by an hour.

Chris Farrow, the corporation's chief executive, said all Irish Sea ferry operators had expressed interest in introducing services from Birkenhead. The terminal would offer access to the UK motorway network, saving drivers additional driving of 90 minutes to reach the present railhead at Holyhead, Angelsea.



Farrow: advantages

MDC and the developers believe introduction of new fast ferries, including catamarans, could add to the advantages of a Birkenhead terminal and enable operators to offer services to Belfast, Dublin and later the Isle of Man. Initial capacity would be 100,000 vehicles a year. Although the terminal would provide only 170 jobs, the developers believe an adjacent waterside site could be developed as a science park.

They aim to attract scientific businesses growing out of Liverpool's two universities and its teaching hospital. London & General envisages construction of accommodation for some of Liverpool's 30,000 students.

The developers, which have the backing of Capital & Regional Properties, hope the terminal could be completed in time to begin operations by the end of next year.

☐ Up to 1,300 jobs are expected to be created in a £16 million project on a former Boots factory site in Sneinton, Nottingham. The scheme is a partnership between Nottingham City Challenge, Simons Estates of Lincoln, and Gulliver Development Unit Trust. The project will consist of small businesses, offices and green areas.

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100
3218.1
-37.6

DOW JONES
3867.44
+2.30

Midday trading figure

THE POUND

Dm
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+0.0103

US $
1.4892
-0.0079

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6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 28, SHARE PRICES PAGE 35

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TIMES-3

Taking the Biscuit — but not for £1.8 billion

It has been interesting to note the performance of United Biscuits' share price during recent weeks. The prospect of major restructuring costs, focusing on Keebler, the company's Transatlantic offshoot locked in a cookie war with Nabisco, had been well flagged. Write-offs of anything between £50 million and £100 million were, one way or another, brought to the City's attention and, the week before last, UB's share price reacted with a 7½ per cent fall to 329p.

Thursday heralded UB's 1993 results with pre-tax profits, before exceptionals, exceeding City analysts' consensus expectations of £174 million with a 6 per cent rise to £182 million. This equated to a 4 per cent increase in underlying earnings per share to 24.2p.

Profits may have exceeded expectations but so did exceptional provisions of £110 million which, taking into account the foreshadowed closure of a Keebler snack plant in Raleigh, North Carolina, rises to £121 million. Deduct appropriately and the pre-tax figure falls to £116.7 million (£161.8 million) to yield earnings per share of 12.8p; somewhat short of a maintained 15.3p dividend total.

The message from UB's board, led by chairman Sir Robert Clarke and chief executive Eric Nicoli, was that the majority of the £110 million provision arises from a "strategic reappraisal of Keebler".

For strategic reappraisal read widespread rationalisation accompanied by a "revised approach to selling and distribution". Retrenchment is under way in salted snacks: exit Keebler from 25 per cent of its geographic coverage of the US, the emphasis being on a powerful regional approach rather than a weak national one. Keebler, which has been attacking the US snack market for five years, has yet to make any profits out of the venture, last year's sales of $250 million representing a lowly market share of just 3.8 per cent.

In contrast, no such withdrawal is envisaged from the static US biscuit market, in which Keebler's share shaded from 16½ per cent to 15.4 per cent. That said, the acquisition of Bake-Line, the largest US private label cookie operation, proved distinctly beneficial with a sales increase of 12 per cent representing double the growth of the own label cookie market. Against this "fiercely competitive" background, Keebler's sales declined 3 per cent from their 1992 peak to $1.7 billion but operating profits, before exceptional items, rose nearly 40 per cent to $63.7 million. Margins edged up from 2.6 per cent to 3.7 per cent.

Operating profits in the UK fell from £145 million to £129 million, the main culprit being higher raw material prices in the wake of sterling's devaluation. This heralds 500 redundancies in Europe, the majority falling on the UK's 17,000 workforce.



MELVYN MARCKUS

Nicoli's thrust into Continental Europe yielded operating profits of £33 million (£25.2 million), 15 per cent of the total, on sales of £417 million.

In the event, some £92 million of the £121 million worth of restructuring costs will be allocated to UB's US operations. The cash element of the provisions amounts to £82 million, scheduled to be expended over three years. Clarke and Nicoli promise that annual cost savings from these initiatives will top £50 million by 1997. All in all, something of a curate's egg, with UB, whose attempt to merge with Imperial Tobacco in the early 1980s was foiled by Hanson, still poised (but no more) to achieve its ambitions of emerging as a major global player.

Interesting, therefore, to witness a 19p rally in UB's shares to 348p last week, in a stock market which, at best, could be described as wobbly. This leaves the quote just 24p above its 1993-94 low of 324p and well below its 437p high. Not for the first time, fund managers, attracted by a yield of 5.6 per cent, are buying into what is perceived as a minimal risk each-way bet.

On the one hand, there is the fairy tale scenario with a £90 million wand doing its thing with Keebler. Then again, should the biscuit fairy meet an oncoming Keebler van, speculation over the prospect of predators descending on UB's brand name wealth is inevitable.

Such speculation (as old as the hills) has already resurfaced, with eyes inevitably turning to Cadbury Schweppes. A year ago, Cadbury is understood to have considered mounting a takeover bid for UB but backed off. This month, Cadbury disclosed a shop window set of 1993 "prelims" with pre-tax profits rising 25 per cent to £416 million on sales 10 per cent higher at £3.7 billion. Earnings per share rose 16 per cent to 30.6p, with the dividend raised 9 per cent to 14.4p.

All good stuff, which was accompanied by word from David Wellings, Cadbury's chief executive, that the company did not rule out the possibility of acquiring Dr Pepper, the US soft drinks enterprise in which Cadbury acquired a 20 per cent block for $231 million last August, raising its stake to 25 per cent. Speculation over quite how Cadbury would finance such an acquisition has been rife: speculation that has, of late, been overtaken by rumours that, should the talks with Dr Pepper come to nought, Cadbury might yet again look to UB, capitalised at £1.8 billion.

Then again, the problem, as before, is that Cadbury would prefer an agreed deal: a handshake that UB has always avoided, despite the fact that Clarke hails from Cadbury. Should Cadbury go for Dr Pepper, UB's shares might, conceivably, experience a dip but the downside potential, at these levels, is minimal. Nor, with the likes of Nestlé and Philip Morris in the wings, is Cadbury the only prospective suitor. Far from it. Nabisco (if it divested Keebler) is another contender. Nor should one rule out the possibility of interest being shown by the transatlantic Campbell Soup Company. One thing is certain. With sales of £3.4 billion, control of UB is not going to change hands at a mere £1.8 billion.

Allied Leisure's chief forced out after interim loss

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

RICHARD Carr, the feisty founder of Allied Leisure, the bowling to nightclubs group, has been forced to stand down by the non-executive directors after disastrous writeoffs sent the company into a half-way loss.

Allied's shares plunged 17p to 26p as the group announced pre-tax losses of £16.1 million in the 24 weeks to January 2, against £1.24 million of profits in the comparable period. The interim dividend was axed entirely.

The group's woes centre on its nightclubs and bars in Bedford and Dundee, which are being closed, and a bowling hall in Liverpool, which lost a total of £941,000 in the 24 weeks. That hall is being offered for sale.

Allied has therefore had to make provisions against the book value of the Liverpool hall and the Dundee and Bedford outlets, leading to a £12.7 million one-off charge. A further £3.8 million of provisions have had to be taken to reduce the value of various other trading assets and to cover redundancy and restructuring costs.

Mr Carr, an energetic and colourful manager who built Allied almost from nothing, was on a three-year rolling contract. Yesterday, he stood down as chief executive and left the board, but remains as a consultant for six months.

A compensation package equal to one year's salary, or about £180,000, has been agreed. Allied is looking for a new chief executive. Also included in the first-half losses are £300,000 in compensation payments to directors who resigned; the largest payment was to Duncan Moss, the former finance director, who quit in November.

Mr Carr was unavailable for comment last night. He is thought to be planning to concentrate on business interests in the US. Last May, Allied appointed William Davis, formerly head of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourist Board, as chairman. Mr Carr stood down from that position after the top roles were split. Allied said yesterday that Mr Davis and James Blyth, a non-executive director, would "assume more active roles in the company" until a new chief executive could be found.

The company said the recession in the leisure industry, which had hit bowling later in the cycle than other businesses, had meant difficult conditions in the first half and falls in like-for-like sales. Excluding businesses being sold or closed, there was a £1.65 million half-way operating profit. Retained operations continued to generate cash.

But Allied is in breach of banking covenants and has agreed a standstill on capital repayments until June.

JAMES MORGAN



Sir Mark Weinberg, right, and Roy Nicolson believe they have struck a "win-win" deal

Insurer sets sights on Europe

SCOTTISH Amicable is to take over J Rothschild International Assurance, based in Dublin. The company will be renamed Scottish Amicable European (Robert Miller writes).

Roy Nicolson, Scottish Amicable's managing director, said it would be possible to service all European markets, including the UK, with J Rothschild International's products. The first moves into mainland Europe are expected to be in Germany and Italy. The start date for the new company, which is backed by development capital of about £28 million, is June.

Sir Mark Weinberg, chairman of J Rothschild Assurance Holdings, of which Scottish Amicable owns 22 per cent, said: "This is a win-win deal in every respect."

Charles Landa, insurance analyst at Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, said: "It will enable Scottish Amicable to sell tax-efficient offshore investment products to UK investors."

Buoyant export sales lift Fortnum & Mason

A STRONG Christmas trading period and buoyant export sales helped to lift pre-tax profits at Fortnum & Mason, the Piccadilly department store, by 6 per cent, from £1.5 million to £1.6 million in the six months to January 22. Turnover rose by 10 per cent to £17.2 million (£15.6 million) but increased staff numbers and lower interest receipts prevented some of the increase filtering down to the bottom line.

Sales at the store rose by 8 per cent. Export sales increased by 30 per cent, driven by the development of new markets in the Pacific Rim. The lower pound also boosted sales in established markets such as Germany and Japan. The interim dividend is unchanged at 86p.

ICI opens in China

ICI, the chemicals group, formally opened its first manufacturing plant in China yesterday. Sir Denys Henderson, chairman, said it marked a significant new era in the company's near-100-year involvement with China. The £15 million plant in Guangdong province on the mainland was built by ICI Swire Paints — a joint venture between ICI Paints and Hong Kong-based Swire Pacific — and the Industrial Development Corporation of Guangzhou Economic Technological Development zone.

Expulsions by Fimbra

THE disciplinary committee of Fimbra, the regulator for independent financial advisers, terminated the membership of Andrew Smith (Insurance Consultants) of Inverness and ordered the company to pay £499 costs. The company failed to pay its levy for the industry-wide investors' compensation scheme. The regulator also terminated the membership of W.A. Harvey and Company, of Glasgow, and the individual registration of Michael David Aspinall, of Michael Aspinall Associates Financial Planning Services.

Call to fight loan fraud

THE £12 billion loss provisions made by the top seven UK banks in the past two years represent £238 for every man, woman and child, according to Ian Huntington, head of fraud investigation at KPMG, the accountant. He urged the banks to look more closely at their loan books: "Investigating loan portfolios has revealed that fraud often played a major part, either through a fraudulent valuation, misleading financial information or non-existent securities." Identifying fraudulent loans had led to substantial loss recovery.

McCarthy in call for £15m

McCarthy & Stone, the troubled builder of retirement flats, is raising £15.5 million with a rights issue to enable it to cut debt and buy land.

It is offering two new shares for every five held at 58p each compared with a stock market price of 71p. The group forecasts a £1.3 million loss for the six months to February 28. McCarthy is clearing the arrears on its preference shares with a scrip issue of new preference shares and has promised to pay dividends again at the end of 1995. Tempus, page 25

Arcolectric up

Arcolectric (Holdings), the electrical components maker, lifted pre-tax profits to £402,874 (£104,944) in the year to December 31. Earnings climbed to 5.57p (2.13p) a share. The total dividend is increased to 1.215p (1.11p), with a 0.66p final.

Vinten slides

Exceptional losses on the disposal of electro-optic businesses helped to depress 1993 pre-tax profits at Vinten Group, the camera systems group, to £4.2 million (£10.2 million). The total dividend rises 11.4 per cent to 7.8p via a 5.7p final.

Goal payout

Goal Petroleum, the North Sea oil exploration company, is paying out 1.45p, up from 1.4p. Net profit for the year to December 31 fell from £7 million to £5.1 million.

Sherwood suffers on continent

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

SHERWOOD Group, the lingerie to socks manufacturer, said that deteriorating trading conditions in its lace business in continental Europe would hit profits in the year to December 31.

The downturn in Europe depressed profits in the first half, but the company said that the market had worsened further in the last quarter of the year.

This had adversely affected the Dutch and German lace operations of Dentex and offset the benefits of earlier cost-cutting initiatives. The company said greater than expected losses had also been incurred on the closure of its German curtain operation.

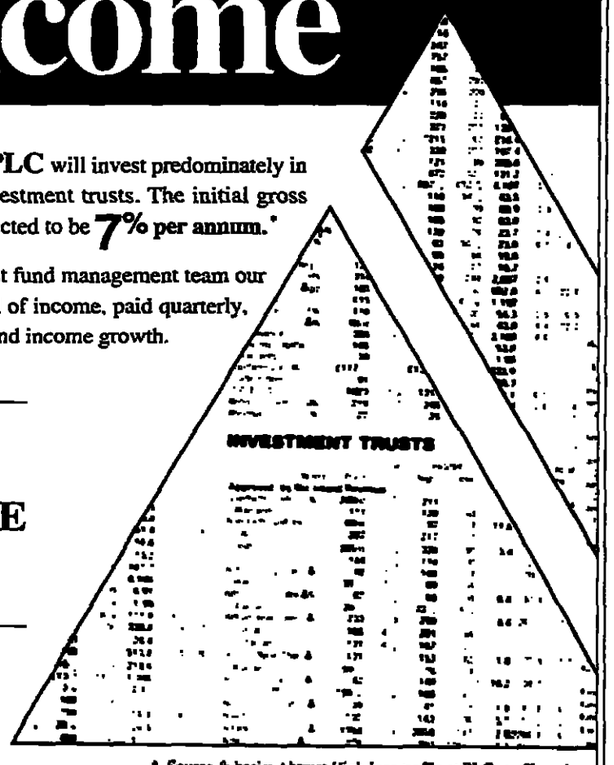
A widespread restructuring plan has been implemented to address the problems at Dentex, including an overhaul of senior management.

Jurgen Vollmer, a director of Sherwood and managing director of Dentex, has resigned from the group.

The company said the financial impact of the losses and restructuring on pre-tax profits in the year to December 31 was unlikely to exceed £1.3 million. It now expects profits of about £18.4 million, compared with £16.9 million last time.

The directors expect to recommend an increased final dividend of 1.9p, bringing the total for the year to 2.9p (2.6p), a rise of 11 per cent.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Inflated hopes

"Thus, the economy has started to weaken ahead of next month's tax rises, and the current good news on unemployment is unlikely to last. That fits in with my view of the way things have been developing so far in 1994..."

David Smith — in Business, The Sunday Times tomorrow

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MIDLAND INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS: **Chris Oakley and John Whitehouse**

A paper partnership forged under fire

partners in power

At first unimpressed by each other, their opinions changed during a bid battle won against odds, says Susan Gilchrist

Have you heard the one about the journalist and the professional cricketer who teamed up to run a successful company? This may sound like the opening line of a bad joke, but it is a true story. Indeed, this unlikely combination has produced one of the most surprising City success stories this year.

While there may not be a punchline, there is certainly a lot of punch about Chris Oakley and John Whitehouse of Midland Independent Newspapers (MIN). Both men come from fairly humble backgrounds and have had little experience of the corporate world, yet they have succeeded in masterminding one of the most successful flotations on the London Stock Exchange in almost a year.

It has been an unconventional route to the top for both men. Oakley, 52, could not afford to train as a barrister, his first career choice, so he got a job on his local newspaper, the *Sevenoaks Chronicle*. He rose up the regional newspaper ladder to become editor of the *Liverpool Daily Post* and the *Liverpool Echo*, one of the top jobs in the industry. Whitehouse took a lead from his father, an assistant treasurer in local government, and qualified as an accountant with Thornton Baker, now Grant Thornton. He later combined his accounting job with his sporting career, playing cricket in the summer for Warwickshire, which he captained for a time, and auditing in the winter.

> "If we'd lost, we'd have lost everything. In something like that, you either break apart, or you are a team for good"

Towards the end of the 1980s, both men found themselves at the Birmingham Post & Mail, then owned by Ingersoll, the American publisher. In 1991, with four colleagues, they put together a management buyout bid in a fiercely contested auction for the company. Against the odds, they beat several rivals and created MIN. Since then, they have trebled profits by turning round loss-making titles and voraciously buying up newspapers and magazines in the Midlands. There is probably much in the background of each that the other could identify with, yet they did not choose to work together. It was, as Oakley puts it, "an arranged marriage". When he joined the *Birmingham Post & Mail* as editor-in-chief and deputy managing director in 1989, he thought he would have little contact with Whitehouse, who was then finance director.

His initial response to him, when they met across a table at a management meeting, was one of resounding indifference. "I thought John was not exactly austere but someone who was very focused on work, and perhaps rather dry. Subsequently I have learnt that outside of work he is not like that at all." While Oakley has a relaxed and easy-going manner, Whitehouse, at first meeting, comes across as more reserved. But that reserve soon falls away to reveal a sharp humour and surprising directness. You can imagine spending a long, and possibly rather drunken, evening in the pub with both of them. The two soon got to know each other better, when the managing director fell ill with hepatitis just before the annual budgeting period, and they were thrown together. "I had been involved in budgeting before," Oakley says, "but nothing like the intensity of an Ingersoll budgeting procedure. It was a baptism of fire and one which I would never have survived had it not been for John."

The pair burnt the midnight oil for two weeks preparing the budget, then endured a week of interrogation from a committee of Ingersoll directors who went through every document line by line. But real closeness, Oakley says, developed during the intense seven months of the buyout. "If we had lost, we would have lost our jobs, everything. In something like that, you either break apart or you are a team for good. We now trust each other implicitly and we are entirely loyal to each other." The buyout not only forged his relationship with Whitehouse, it also influenced his personal life. His son, born shortly afterwards, is called Max Barnaby Oakley, providing the initials MBO.

The buyout also highlighted some of the differences between the two. "John doubted whether we could do it, and rightly so. We had no contacts in the City, we had never raised any money and we had never owned a company. And we were looking for £125 million. But I am a great believer that if you don't know things are impossible, you can probably pull them off."

Oakley tends to be the ideas man. "But John has taught me a great deal about the importance of detail and logical planning, about how the best ideas are only effective if they are carefully thought out. It is a good team. I need somebody who from time to time is anchoring the balloon to the ground." It was Oakley's idea to embark on the acquisition trail, which has been such a hallmark of the company's success. But he says the plaudits really belong to Whitehouse. "While it's great to have the idea, somebody has to put together the nitty gritty that is going to persuade bankers as far apart as Geneva and San Francisco that buying a publication in Burton makes sense."

Oakley admits he misses his days as a journalist, when he was breaking stories about the Militant Tendency in Liverpool and doing undercover drug investigations. But he insists his working relationship with Whitehouse is the strongest partnership he has ever had. "In the past, I have had to adapt to the people I was working with. But with John, I haven't had to change my natural instincts at all and neither has he. The blend is perfect." Would he have picked him as his right-hand man if he had had the choice? "Knowing what I know about him now, the answer is unquestionably yes."

□□□

JOHN Whitehouse, 44, says Oakley made no impression on him when they first met. But that changed when they worked on the annual budget. "There was a hell of a lot of detail, which Chris needed to understand in a short space of time. I was impressed with how quickly he got to grips with it all. One thing you soon learn about Chris is that he is incredibly smart." He agrees that the buyout was the turning-point of the relationship. "Very early on, we made a point to stick together and be a team. We all pulled each other along and have done ever since." He says Oakley has always been a committed team player despite his background in journalism, which tends to be a breeding-ground for ego-maniacs. "All six of us have equal shares in the business, although it would have been easy for Chris to argue he should get more. But he never did."

He believes he is a good foil to Oakley's creativity. "There's no doubt Chris is the guy with the ideas. Some of them sane and sensible, others less so. How I dovetail with him is to knock the wilder edges off the good ones and find the best way to take them forward." He admits that of the two, he is the one who will see the downside and the problems in a situation.

This does not mean he constantly pours cold water on Oakley's suggestions. "I see it as part of my job to justify his ideas for him, rather than sit there being a damp cloth saying 'We can't do this'." Even if he did, it would have little effect. "Chris would only come back with another way of achieving the same end."

He has nicknamed his chief executive "Wal", after the comic Sir Walter Raleigh character created by Bob Newhart, the American comedian, who dumbfounds his colleagues with the crazy idea of tobacco smoking.

Whitehouse says some of Mr Oakley's ferocious tenacity has rubbed off on him. "As far as Chris is concerned, if there's a brick wall in the way you go through it, and if you can't go through it you go round it, and if you can't go round it, you try going through it again. He is so tenacious you can't help but follow and be the same." He regrets not learning this lesson earlier in his career. "I wish that in professional sport I had had the determination I have got now. I would probably have done a lot better. But it is thanks to Chris I have it now."

And that is the beginning of the story about the journalist and the professional cricketer who teamed up to run a successful company. You are likely to hear a great deal more about them yet.



JOHN MANNING

Oakley, bearded, the architect of the growth strategy, bubbles with ideas; Whitehouse "knocks the wilder edges off the good ones"

TEMPUS

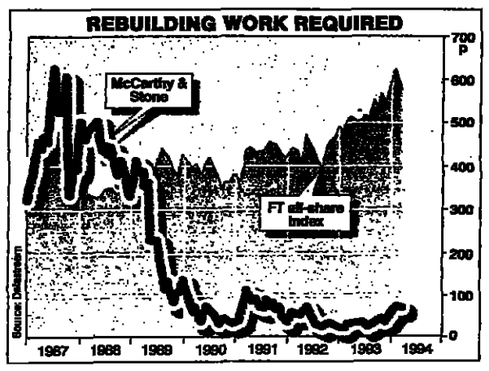
Bond market meltdown spoils monetarist sums

IT WAS always a mistake for die-hard monetarists, with their blindly mechanistic view of the relationship between economic activity and the growth of broad money supply, to look at headline M4 money supply figures without breaking down the components.

In the final months of 1993, M4 was growing at what appeared to be much healthier levels and strict monetarists became more bullish on the economy. But it was obvious that the bulk of private bank lending was to securities houses, to support large long positions in the buoyant equities and gilts markets of the time. In the fourth quarter, the annual growth of loans to households and non-financial companies hit a new 30-year low of 2.4 per cent.

Monetary sceptics argued that lending to securities houses, almost solely underpinning broad money supply growth, could easily reverse if sentiment in asset markets changed. Yesterday's figures on sterling lending from the British Bankers' Association showed they were right: lending fell £244 million in February, largely because of an "unusually large repayment" by securities dealers. Growth in M4 lending itself accelerated in the year to February, largely because of the public sector contribution.

With bond markets still reeling from the unwinding of long positions, in spite of positive inflation data from Britain and the US, there is the prospect of more weak lending numbers and, hopefully, another rethink on Britain's economic prospects from the monetarist camp.



Minorco

SOMETHING interesting could be happeping at Minorco. Last September's asset and shares swap with Anglo American has given the group a new purpose in life after its failed bid for Consolidated Gold Fields. Now a proper mining and natural resources group, it still has a tidy sum tucked away to build up its portfolio.

With base metal prices low, Minorco is likely to put its $800 million net cash into mining assets to profit from any price revival. The company has a third interest in the Collahuasi copper project in Chile alongside Falconbridge and Billiton, part of Royal Dutch Shell. The oil group's interest could soon be up for grabs as negotiations are under way to sell Billiton to Gencor, the South African mining group, and the Collahuasi partners have pre-emption rights over each other's stakes. Minorco could increase its stake in Collahuasi although the prospect could also attract Falconbridge, which is preparing a major share issue in Toronto.

Turning cash into ore could persuade Minorco to move from Luxembourg to London. Tax-free dividend and interest income has kept the company on the Continent, but a London residence would give Minorco FT-SE 100 membership and boost its share price.

McCarthy & Stone

HOUSEBUILDERS that repair balance sheets with rights issues have become common in the past 18 months but McCarthy & Stone, the retirement-flat builder, has stared into the abyss longer than most. The company has only survived the past five years by selling off almost any asset it could find and tapping shareholders for £13 million three years ago.

But recurring losses have left McCarthy looking ill-prepared to fund its recovery now that demand for sheltered housing is picking up. Debts have been too high to allow the group to make any significant land purchases. The £15.5 million rights proceeds will cut gearing to about 25 per cent, including finance leases, enabling McCarthy to spend up to £14 million on land this year and £20 million next.

The 14 per cent rise in McCarthy's selling prices in the past 12 months should return the group to a small profit in the year to August 31, the first since 1990, in spite of the forecast first-half loss of £1.3 million.

The 71p ordinary share price reflects much of the potential, particularly since McCarthy will not pay a dividend for another two years. McCarthy's preference shares look far more attractive. The group is repaying its preference arrears with a scrip issue, but will start to accrue cash interest on them from next month, with the first payment due in January. At 106p, they carry an effective gross yield of 10.3 per cent and look a bargain for any income investor.

Shandwick

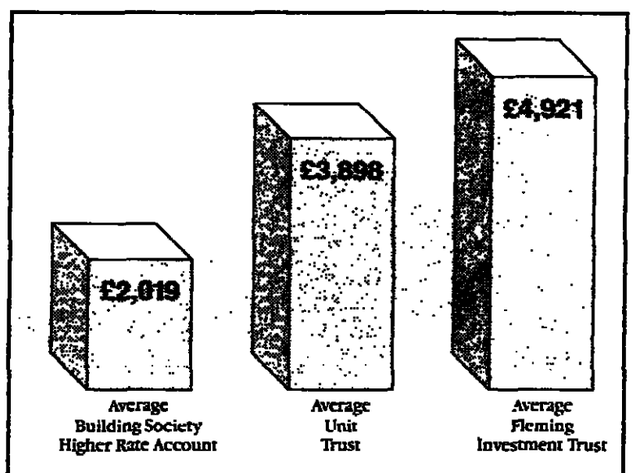
PUBLIC relations agencies have an appalling record on the stock market. The collapse of Charles Barker and the tribulations of Broad Street have left investors wary. Shandwick has also had its difficulties, including the failure to pay a dividend since 1991. The PR group is nevertheless passing the cap around its shareholders for £19 million more equity — a reward for its return to profit last year.

The cash will allow Shandwick to reduce its unwieldy debt, although £8 million will effectively disappear in earn-out payments in the next three years, the legacy of Shandwick's acquisitive blitzkrieg in the late Eighties. Nor will the cash do much to dent the group's £69 million in negative net assets, anathema to shareholders who like to see their investment backed by something more solid than media puffery.

Shandwick's size and global spread will ensure it never suffers the fate of some of its quoted rivals. But the question about whether such volatile, personnel-dependent businesses should ever be quoted is arguable at best.

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Source: Micropal, gross income reinvested, 1/12/93, offer to bid, The Flemings and unit trust figures include charges. The value of investments within a PEP and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the full amount invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future.

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POSTCODE_____ TEL_____

TMPWE 1868

FLEMINGS
The Investment Trust Experts

The prospectus relating to House of Fraser PLC dated 17th March, 1994, from which the information contained in this document is drawn and which alone contains full details of House of Fraser PLC and of the securities being offered, comprises listing particulars relating to House of Fraser PLC in accordance with the listing rules made under section 142 of the Financial Services Act 1986, and has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies in Scotland for registration in accordance with section 149 of that Act.

Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of House of Fraser PLC to be admitted to the Official List. It is expected that admission to the Official List will become effective and that dealings in the ordinary shares will commence on Wednesday, 6th April, 1994. The issue of this document has been authorised by the London Stock Exchange without approval of its contents.

The Directors are satisfied that this document contains a fair summary of the key information set out in the Prospectus.

S.G.Warburg is a member of The Securities and Futures Authority Limited. S.G.Warburg is acting as sponsor to House of Fraser PLC and underwriter to the Offer and will not be responsible to anyone other than House of Fraser PLC for providing the protections afforded to customers of S.G.Warburg or for providing advice in relation to either the Placing or the Public Offer.

No action has been or will be taken to permit the offer of ordinary shares other than in the UK or the distribution of this document in any jurisdiction other than the UK. The distribution of this document and/or the offering of ordinary shares may be restricted in certain jurisdictions. Persons in possession of this document should inform themselves of and observe any such restrictions. This document does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to buy, ordinary shares in any jurisdiction or in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful.

In particular, this document is not for distribution in or into the United States or Canada. The ordinary shares have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act or under the securities laws of Canada and, subject to certain exceptions, may not be offered or sold within the United States or Canada or to any national, resident or citizen of Canada. S.G.Warburg may arrange the offer and sale of a portion of the ordinary shares within the United States exclusively to persons reasonably believed by it to be qualified institutional buyers (as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act) in reliance on the exemption provided by Rule 144A.

No person has been authorised to give any information or make any representations in connection with the Offer or the Group other than as contained in the Prospectus or this document and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Company, the Directors, S.G.Warburg, Harrods Investments or any of them. Neither the delivery of this document nor any purchase made on the basis hereof shall constitute a representation or create any implication that the information herein is correct as at any time subsequent to the date of this document.

HOUSE OF FRASER

Placing and Public Offer

by

S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd.

of

229.6 million ordinary shares in

House of Fraser PLC

of which 172.2 million are being placed firm

and 57.4 million are being offered to the public

at 180 pence per share

payable in full on application

IIII

DEFINITIONS

Act	the Companies Act 1985 (as amended)
Application Form	a Public Application Form, Preferential Application Form or Intermediaries Bulk Application Form, or any or all of them, as the context requires
Company	House of Fraser PLC
Directors	the directors of the Company
Employee Share Plans	the House of Fraser Sharesave Option Scheme and the House of Fraser 1994 Share Option Plan
First Personal Bank	The First Personal Bank plc, a subsidiary of GE Capital
GE Capital	General Electric Capital Corporation, a subsidiary of the General Electric Company of the United States (not affiliated to the English company with a similar name)
Harrods	the Harrods store or, as the context may require, Harrods Limited, the owner of the Harrods store
Harrods Investments	Harrods Investments plc, the holding company controlled by the Fayed family
House of Fraser or Group	House of Fraser PLC and its subsidiary undertakings
House of Fraser (Stores)	House of Fraser (Stores) Limited, the wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, which operates all the Group's department stores
Intermediaries Bulk Application Form	a bulk application form for use by eligible financial intermediaries in respect of the Public Offer
Listing	the admission to the Official List of the London Stock Exchange of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company
London Stock Exchange	The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited
Offer	the Public Offer and the Placing
Offer Price	180 pence per ordinary share
ordinary shares	ordinary shares of 20 pence each in the capital of the Company
Placing	the placing by S.G.Warburg of 229,600,000 ordinary shares described in Part Five of the Prospectus, including the 57,400,000 ordinary shares which are subject to right of recall for the purposes of the Public Offer
Preferential Applicant	an applicant eligible to apply for shares under the Preferential Offer
Preferential Application Form	the application form for use by Preferential Applicants in respect of the Preferential Offer
Preferential Offer	the arrangements for eligible employees, eligible pensioners and Directors to apply under the Public Offer, which are described in Part Five of the Prospectus and separately in the Preferential Application Form
Prospectus	the listing particulars relating to House of Fraser PLC dated 17th March, 1994
Public Application Form	the application form for use in respect of the Public Offer (but not the Preferential Offer) attached to this document
Public Offer	the offer for sale by S.G.Warburg of 57,400,000 ordinary shares described in Part Five of the Prospectus, which includes the Preferential Offer
Securities Act	the United States Securities Act of 1933
S.G.Warburg	S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd.

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised			Issued and fully paid	
Number	£		Number	£
310,000,000	62,000,000	ordinary shares of 20 pence each	229,600,000	45,920,000

The Offer comprises the entire issued ordinary share capital of House of Fraser PLC. The ordinary shares will rank in full for all dividends or other distributions declared, paid or made hereafter in respect of the ordinary share capital of the Company.

INDEBTEDNESS

At the close of business on 15th February, 1994 the Group had outstanding borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing of £117.1 million, comprising overdrafts of £21.4 million and loans of £95.0 million (both of which were secured), a mortgage of £0.5 million and loan notes of £0.2 million. With the exception of the mortgage and loan notes, all of the Group's borrowings are from bank lenders.

The Company and House of Fraser (Stores) had outstanding on 15th February, 1994 guarantees of certain bank borrowings of Harrods Investments and Harrods Holdings plc, supported by charges over all the Group's assets. Under an agreement with the banks concerned these guarantees and charges will be released on Listing becoming effective.

Save as aforesaid and apart from intra-Group liabilities, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiary undertakings had as at 15th February, 1994 any loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued, any mortgages, charges, or any other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, including bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances (other than normal trade bills), acceptance credits, hire purchase commitments or finance lease obligations, guarantees or other contingent liabilities.

At the close of business on 15th February, 1994, the Group had cash balances of £27.4 million.

On 25th February, 1994 the Company entered into new facilities for up to £155.0 million. These new facilities will be available for use by the Company on Listing becoming effective; at that time, the Company will repay in full the secured loans referred to above with amounts borrowed under the new facilities (part of which will be secured by new charges over certain of the Group's properties) and the existing charges over the Group's assets will be released.

EXPECTED TIMETABLE

	1994
Latest time for receipt of completed Application Forms in respect of the Public Offer	10 am on Friday, 25th March
Basis of allocation announced	Monday, 28th March
Despatch of renounceable letters of allocation	Tuesday, 5th April
Dealings to commence	Wednesday, 6th April
Last time for splitting	3 pm on Wednesday, 4th May
Last time for registration of renunciation	3 pm on Friday, 6th May
Despatch of definitive share certificates	By Friday, 27th May

The procedure for application and the Public Application Form are set out at the end of this document.

OFFER STATISTICS

Offer price per ordinary share	180 pence
Number of ordinary shares in issue	229.6 million
Percentage of the issued share capital subject to the Offer	100 per cent
Market capitalisation at the Offer Price	£413.3 million
1994 earnings per ordinary share[1]	
before exceptional items	11.1 pence
after exceptional items	10.1 pence
Historic price earnings multiple at the Offer Price[2]	
before exceptional items	16.2 times
after exceptional items	17.8 times
Notional net dividend per ordinary share[3]	5.0 pence
Notional gross dividend yield at the Offer Price[4]	3.5 per cent
Notional dividend cover[5]	2.2 times

GROUP STATISTICS

			1994[6] £m
Number of stores[6]	56	Sales	721.7
Selling space (million sq ft)[6]	4.74	Operating profit before exceptional items	45.0
Number of employees[7]	10,582	Net assets	248.2
Equivalent number of full time employees[7]	7,734	Net borrowings	93.0

Notes

(1) These figures have been extracted from the Accountants' Report in Part Six of the Prospectus.

(2) The historic price earnings multiple is calculated by dividing the Offer Price by the 1994 earnings per ordinary share.

(3) Notional net dividend per ordinary share represents the dividend per ordinary share for the year ended 29th January, 1994 which the Directors believe they would have been justified in recommending if the ordinary shares had been listed on the London Stock Exchange for the whole of the 1994 financial year with the current capital structure.

(4) Notional gross dividend yield at the Offer Price is calculated by dividing the notional gross dividend per ordinary share (being the notional net dividend per ordinary share plus the associated 20 per cent tax credit) by the Offer Price.

(5) Notional dividend cover is calculated by dividing 1994 earnings per ordinary share before exceptional items by the notional net dividend per ordinary share.

(6) Measured as at 29th January, 1994, taking account of the closure of the Army & Navy stores in Lewisham and Gravesend and Arnotts in Glasgow which took place at or since the year end. The selling space of these stores was 0.2 million sq ft.

(7) As at 29th January, 1994.

Year ends

Unless the context implies otherwise, a reference in this document to a year, such as "1994", is to the financial year of House of Fraser ending on the last Saturday in January of that year.

DIRECTORS

The Directors are Brian McGowan (Chairman), Andrew Jennings (Managing Director), Tony Hancock (Operations Director and Deputy Managing Director), Ian Martin (non-executive Director), William Mathieson (non-executive Director) and Richard Scott (Finance Director).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

1 **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Applications are made on the following terms and conditions, together with those set out or referred to in the relevant Application Form or its associated guide. In the case of a joint application, references in these terms and conditions to "you" or the "applicant" are to each of you, and your liability is joint and several. The "Guide to the Public Application Form" forms part of these terms and conditions for applicants using the Public Application Form. The "Guide to the Preferential Application Form" forms part of these terms and conditions for applicants using the Preferential Application Form. The "Guide to the Intermediaries Bulk Application Form" forms part of these terms and conditions for applicants using the Intermediaries Bulk Application Form.

(A) The contract arising from the acceptance of an application under the Public Offer will be conditional on (i) Listing becoming effective at or before 9 am on 6th April, 1994, or such later time or date as S.G.Warburg, Harrods Investments and the Company may agree and (ii) the Placing and Offer for Sale Agreement referred to in paragraph 10 of Part Seven of the Prospectus becoming wholly unconditional and not being terminated before Listing. If conditions (i) and (ii) are not satisfied, monies collected in respect of applications will be refunded (without interest) by returning the applicant's cheque or banker's draft or by sending a cheque crossed "Account Payee" in favour of the applicant(s) through the post to the address of the applicant or, in the case of joint applicants, to the first-named applicant at the risk of the applicant(s).

(B) The right is reserved to present cheques and banker's drafts on or after 28th March, 1994 for payment before the conditions referred to in paragraph (A) have been satisfied and to retain renounceable letters of allocation and surplus application monies (if any) pending clearance of applicants' cheques and banker's drafts. The right is also reserved to reject any application in respect of which the applicant(s) cheque or banker's draft has not been cleared on first presentation and, in any event, by 3 pm on 31st March, 1994. Application monies will be kept in a separate bank account (except application monies in respect of applications on Preferential Application Forms, which will be paid into a trust account of The Share Centre Ltd. pending transmission to Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars). S.G.Warburg may, as agent of Harrods Investments, require an applicant to pay interest or its other resulting costs (or both) if the cheque or banker's draft accompanying his application is not honoured on first presentation. If an applicant is required to pay interest he will be obliged to pay the amount determined by S.G.Warburg to be the interest on the amount of the cheque or banker's draft from the date on which the basis of allocation under the Public Offer is publicly announced, until the date of receipt of cleared funds. The rate of interest will be the then published bank base rate of a clearing bank selected by S.G Warburg plus 2 per cent per annum.

(C) Subject to the terms of the Preferential Offer, the basis of allocation for applications will be determined by S.G.Warburg in its absolute discretion but after consultation with the Company. The right is reserved to reject in whole or in part or to scale down any application, in particular, but without limiting the following terms and conditions, the right is reserved to reject any application from (or suspected to be from) within the United States of America, its territories or possessions (the "United States") or made on behalf of (or suspected to be made on behalf of) anyone within the United States or from (or suspected to be from) or made on behalf of (or suspected to be made on behalf of) a Canadian person (as defined below). If any application is not accepted, or is accepted for fewer shares than the number applied for, the application monies or, as the case may be, the balance of the application monies, will be refunded (without interest) by returning the applicant's cheque or banker's draft or by sending a cheque crossed "Account Payee" in favour of the applicant(s) through the post to the address of the applicant or, in the case of joint applicants, to the first-named applicant at the risk of the applicant(s). An Application Form may be rejected if it is not completed in all respects in accordance with the instructions or is not accompanied by a power of attorney where necessary, or if the accompanying cheque or banker's draft is for the wrong amount. In these circumstances, the decision of S.G.Warburg or, in the case of applications on the Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd., as to whether to reject the application or treat the application as valid, and as to how to construe, amend or complete the Application Form, shall be final. An applicant will not, however, be treated as having offered to purchase more ordinary shares than is indicated in his application. Applicants will not be entitled to exercise any remedy of rescission for innocent misrepresentation at any time after acceptance of their applications. This does not affect any other right they may have.

(D) The Public Offer is being made by S.G.Warburg as agent of Harrods Investments. Applications must be made on the accompanying Public Application Form or, in the case of applications under the terms of the Preferential Offer, on a Preferential Application Form or, in the case of applications from eligible financial intermediaries, on the Intermediaries Bulk Application Form. By completing and delivering an Application Form you, as the applicant(s) (and if the Application Form is signed on behalf of somebody else or a corporation, that person or corporation):

(i) agree that your Application Form is addressed to S.G.Warburg and Harrods Investments and, in the case of Preferential Applications, The Share Centre Ltd.;

(ii) offer to acquire the number of ordinary shares specified in your Application Form (or in each case, such smaller number for which the application is accepted) on the terms and subject to the conditions set out or referred to in this document and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;

(iii) in the case of applications on a Public Application Form or (subject to the special terms applicable thereto) on an Intermediaries Bulk Application Form, authorise Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, to send on behalf of S.G.Warburg (as agent for Harrods Investments) a renounceable letter of allocation for the number of ordinary shares for which your application is accepted and/or a cheque crossed "Account Payee" for any monies returnable (without interest) by post at the risk of the person(s) entitled, to your address (or, in the case of joint applicants, to that of the first-named applicant as set out in your Application Form) and to do all things necessary to procure that your name (together with the name(s) of any other joint applicant(s)) is/are placed on the register of members of the Company in respect of such ordinary shares the entitlement to which has not been duly renounced and, in the case of applications on a Preferential Application Form, authorise Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, to send on behalf of S.G.Warburg (as agent for Harrods Investments) a letter of allocation to The Share Centre Ltd. (or its nominee) for the aggregate number of ordinary shares for which applications on Preferential Application Forms are accepted and authorise The Share Centre Ltd. to send a certificate of beneficial entitlement for the number of ordinary shares for which your application is accepted and/or a cheque crossed "Account Payee" for any monies returnable (without interest) by post at your risk and to your address.

(iv) In consideration of S.G.Warburg and Harrods Investments agreeing that they will not sell, prior to Listing, any of the ordinary shares offered to any person other than by means of the procedures referred to in this document and of S.G.Warburg agreeing that it will consider and process applications on Application Forms for the ordinary shares in accordance with the procedures referred to in this document, and as a collateral contract between you and S.G.Warburg which will become binding on despatch of the Application Form by post, or on delivery by hand, to the address specified on the Application Form:

(a) agree that your application may not be revoked until after 15th April, 1994;

(b) warrant that your remittance will be honoured on first presentation and agree that, if such cheque or banker's draft is not so honoured, you will not be entitled to receive a renounceable letter of allocation or, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, a certificate of beneficial entitlement, in respect of the ordinary shares applied for, or to enjoy or receive any rights or distributions in respect of such ordinary shares unless and until you make payment in cleared funds for such ordinary shares and such payment is accepted by S.G.Warburg or, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd. (which acceptance shall be in the absolute discretion of S.G.Warburg (or The Share Centre Ltd. in the case of applications on Preferential Application Forms) and on the basis that you indemnify Harrods Investments and S.G.Warburg and, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd., against all costs, damages, losses, expenses and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the failure of your remittance to be honoured on first presentation) and that at any time prior to unconditional acceptance by S.G.Warburg or, as the case may be, The Share Centre Ltd. of such late payment S.G.Warburg may (for itself and/or on behalf of Harrods Investments) (without prejudice to any other rights that it or Harrods Investments may have) avoid the agreement, or instruct The Share Centre Ltd. to avoid the agreement, to allocate such ordinary shares or beneficial entitlement to you, without liability, and may allocate such ordinary shares or beneficial entitlement to such ordinary shares to some other person, in which case you will not be entitled to any refund or payment in respect of such ordinary shares (other than the refund to you at your risk of any proceeds of the cheque or banker's draft which accompanied your application, without interest);

(c) undertake to pay interest at the rate described in paragraph 1(B) above if the cheque or banker's draft accompanying your application is not honoured on first presentation;

(d) agree that any renounceable letter of allocation or certificate of beneficial entitlement to which you may become entitled, and monies returnable to you, may be retained pending clearance of your cheque or banker's draft or pending investigation of any suspected breach of the warranties contained in sub-paragraphs (vii), (viii), (x), (xii), (xiii), or (xiv) below and that any moneys so retained shall bear no interest; and

(e) agree, on request by S.G.Warburg or, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd., to disclose promptly in writing to it any information which it may request in connection with your application and authorise it to disclose any information relating to your application as it considers appropriate;

(v) agree that in respect of those ordinary shares for which your application has been received and is not rejected, allocation of such ordinary shares to you shall be constituted, at the election of S.G.Warburg, either by notification to the London Stock Exchange of the basis of allocation (in which case allocation shall be on that basis) or by the determination of the number of shares to be allocated pursuant to the arrangements made between S.G.Warburg, Lloyds Bank Registrars and The Share Centre Ltd. or, in the case of applications on Intermediaries Bulk Application Forms, on such other basis as may be applicable thereto;

(vi) agree that all applications, acceptances of applications and contracts resulting from them under the Public Offer shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, English law and that you submit to the jurisdiction of the English courts and agree that nothing shall limit the right of S.G.Warburg, Harrods Investments, the Company or, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd., to bring any action or proceedings in connection with any such applications, acceptances or contracts in any manner permitted by law or in any court of competent jurisdiction;

(vii) if the laws of any place outside the UK are applicable to your application, warrant that you have complied with all such laws and that none of the Company, Harrods Investments, S.G.Warburg or, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd., or any of their respective agents will infringe the laws of any place outside the UK as a result of acceptance of your application;

(viii) warrant that, if you sign an Application Form on behalf of somebody else or a corporation, you have the authority to do so and that such other person or corporation will be bound accordingly and will be deemed also to have given the confirmations, warranties and undertakings contained in these terms and conditions of application;

(ix) confirm that in making this application neither you nor any person on whose behalf you are applying is relying on any information or representation in relation to the Company or to any other member of the Group other than as may be contained in this document or the Prospectus and you accordingly agree that no person responsible solely or jointly for the Prospectus, or any part of it, shall have any liability for any such information or representation;

(x) (a)(i)warrant that you are not accepting the invitation comprised in the Offer from within the United States or on behalf of anyone within the United States or (ii) (A) acknowledge, represent and agree that you are a qualified institutional buyer ("QIB") within the meaning of Rule 144A under the Securities Act, that you are acquiring the ordinary shares for your own account or for the account of a QIB and that the ordinary shares may not be transferred except in a transaction that is registered under the Securities Act or pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act or in another transaction that is exempt from, or not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and (B) acknowledge that the ordinary shares have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and that your subscription for ordinary shares is being made in a transaction exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act; and (b) warrant that you are not a Canadian person (as defined in paragraph (G) below) and are not applying for, and will not be acquiring, ordinary shares on behalf of or for the account of any Canadian person or with a view to re-offer or re-sale in Canada or to any Canadian person;

(xi) agree that, having had the opportunity to read the Prospectus, you shall be deemed to have had notice of all information and representations concerning the Company or any other member of the Group contained therein;

(xii) except to the extent that you delete points (i), (ii) or (iii) set out on the Public Application Form, warrant that you are not any such person as therein referred to (this is for stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax purposes);

(xiii) warrant that you are not, and are not applying on behalf of a person who is, under 18 years of age (or 20 years of age in the case of a person resident in Jersey) on the date of your application except, in the case of an application on a Public Application Form or Intermediaries Bulk Application Form, for the benefit of a minor as described in the guide to the relevant Application Form;

(xiv) warrant, in the case of an application made on a Preferential Application Form, (a) that you are (or, if you are signing on behalf of another person, that the person is) a Preferential Applicant and that the Preferential Application Form is completed and delivered solely for the account of the applicant and not directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, for or on behalf of any other person and (b) that only one application has been made by you or on your behalf on a Preferential Application Form; and

(xv) agree that S.G.Warburg will not treat you as its customer by virtue of your application being accepted and that, in particular, S.G.Warburg will not owe you any duties or responsibilities concerning the price of the ordinary shares or the suitability of the ordinary shares for you.

(E) As described in Part Five of the Prospectus, up to 10 per cent of the ordinary shares which are the subject of the Public Offer (the "10 per cent limit") have been reserved for Preferential Applicants. The Directors have the absolute discretion to decide in any individual case whether the conditions of eligibility to participate in the Preferential Offer have been satisfied. Applications under the Preferential Offer must be made on the pink Preferential Application Form. A person eligible to apply on a Preferential Application Form may also make an application on a Public Application Form. To the extent that applications from Preferential Applicants are received in excess of the 10 per cent limit, the applications may be scaled down as S.G.Warburg thinks fit, such that applications which have been scaled down to the limit set by S.G.Warburg will be satisfied in full and applications above that limit will be deemed to be separate applications on a Public Application Form and will be treated accordingly.

(F) No person receiving a copy of this document or an Application Form in any territory other than the UK may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use such a form unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other regulatory or legal requirements and without any actions being required on the part of the Company, Harrods Investments, S.G.Warburg, S.G.Warburg Securities Ltd. or, in the case of an application on a Preferential Application Form, The Share Centre Ltd., for the purpose of making such invitation or offer lawful in such territory including, without limitation, the preparation for registration of any prospectus in such territory. It is a condition of any application by any person outside the UK that he has satisfied himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection with the application, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents which may be required and compliance with any other requisite formalities and payment of any issue, transfer or other taxes due in any other territory. This document and the other documents relating to the Offer have not been submitted to the clearance procedures of any authorities other than relevant authorities in the UK. S.G Warburg reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to reject any application made by or on behalf of a person outside the UK.

(G) The ordinary shares have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and subject to certain exemptions may not be offered or sold within the United States. S.G Warburg may arrange the offer and sale of a portion of the ordinary shares within the United States exclusively to any person reasonably believed by it to be a QIB in reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 144A. Any purchaser of ordinary shares being offered within the United States is hereby notified that the offer and sale of such ordinary shares to it may be made in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A, or otherwise in a transaction exempt from such registration requirements. The Company has agreed to furnish to investors upon request such information as may be required by Rule 144A. In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering, an offer or sale of ordinary shares within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act, if such offer or sale is made otherwise than in accordance with Rule 144A under the Securities Act.

No application may be made on any Application Form by or on behalf of a Canadian person.

For the purpose of this document, a "Canadian person" means:

(i) any individual resident in Canada;

(ii) any corporation, partnership, firm, investment fund, pension fund, estate, trust or other entity incorporated, established or organised under, or governed by, the law of Canada or any political sub-division thereof (except for a branch of a Canadian corporation, partnership or firm located in the UK, or a Canadian investment fund, pension fund, estate or trust the investment assets of which are managed on a discretionary basis by a person otherwise entitled to make an application under the Offer);

(iii) any branch in Canada of a corporation, partnership or firm incorporated or established outside Canada; or

(iv) an individual resident outside Canada, or any investment fund, pension fund, estate or trust organised under, or governed by, the laws of a jurisdiction outside Canada, the investment assets of whom or which are managed on a discretionary basis by a Canadian person described in (i), (ii) or (iii).

(H) The dates and times referred to in these terms and conditions may be altered by S.G.Warburg so as to be consistent with the Placing and Offer for Sale Agreement referred to in paragraph 10 of Part Seven of the Prospectus (as the same may be altered from time to time).

2 **BASIS OF ACCEPTANCE AND DEALING ARRANGEMENTS**

Public Application Forms and Intermediaries Bulk Application Forms must be sent by post or delivered by hand to Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, Receiving Bank Services, Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL, and Preferential Application Forms must be sent to The Share Centre Ltd., P.O. Box 1000, St. Peter's House, Market Place, Tring, Hertfordshire HP23 4JR, so as to arrive no later than 10 am on Friday, 25th March, 1994. The application lists will open at 10 am on Friday, 25th March, 1994 and will close as soon thereafter as S.G.Warburg may determine. Acceptance of any application will be effected at the election of S.G.Warburg either by notification to the London Stock Exchange of the basis for allocation or by the determination of the number of ordinary shares to be allocated, as set out in paragraph 1(D)(v) above. The basis on which applications have been accepted will be announced as soon as possible after the application lists close. It is expected that temporary documents of title, in the form of renounceable letters of allocation, will be posted to successful applicants (other than successful applicants under the Preferential Offer (see below) and successful applicants on Intermediaries Bulk Application Forms, which will be governed by the special terms applicable thereto) on Tuesday, 5th April, 1994 but will not be negotiable until Listing becomes effective. Successful applicants under the Preferential Offer will not be sent renounceable letters of allocation. Instead, The Share Centre Ltd. (or its nominee) will receive a single renounceable letter of allocation in respect of all ordinary shares allocated to applicants under the Preferential Offer and will send to such applicants certificates of beneficial entitlement in respect of ordinary shares allocated to them under the Preferential Offer. It is expected that these certificates will be posted on Tuesday, 5th April, 1994. Dealings in the ordinary shares are expected to commence on Wednesday, 6th April, 1994. Dealings prior to receipt of renounceable letters of allocation or certificates of beneficial entitlement, as the case may be, will be at the risk of applicants. A person so dealing must recognise the risk that an application may not have been accepted to the extent anticipated, or at all, or that Listing may not become effective.

A successful applicant (other than under the Preferential Offer) may sell or otherwise dispose of some or all of the ordinary shares in respect of which his application has been accepted by execution of the form of renunciation on his renounceable letter of allocation and delivery of the renounceable letter of allocation to the transferee. A successful applicant under the Preferential Offer may sell or otherwise dispose of some or all of the ordinary shares in respect of which his application has been accepted, by dealing through The Share Centre Ltd. in the manner notified separately to those entitled to apply under the Preferential Offer.

Persons who lodge renounceable letters of allocation (duly completed in accordance with the instructions stated on them) for registration under the Offer by 3 pm on Friday, 6th May, 1994 will not be required to pay any registration fee upon such registration. Share certificates will be despatched by first class post on or before Friday, 27th May, 1994.

3 **STAMP DUTY AND STAMP DUTY RESERVE TAX**

Harrods Investments will meet the liability of original applicants, placees or their renouncees to stamp duty (at the rate of 50p per £100) arising in respect of the transfer of ordinary shares to such applicants, placees or renouncees pursuant to registration of letters of allocation on or before the latest time for registration. However, these arrangements will not apply to any charge to stamp duty or stamp duty reserve tax under any of sections 67, 70, 93 or 96 of the Finance Act 1986 (which broadly apply where the applicant, placee or renouncee is, or is a nominee for, either a person whose business is or includes issuing depositary receipts or a person whose business is or includes the provision of clearance services for the purchase or sale of chargeable securities).

As mentioned under "Renunciation of letters of allocation" in paragraph 14(D) of Part Seven of the Prospectus, renouncees are responsible for the discharge of their own liability to stamp duty reserve tax.

Subject to these comments, no stamp duty or stamp duty reserve tax will be payable by applicants, placees or renouncees in respect of the registration of renounceable letters of allocation on or before 3 pm on Friday 6th May, 1994, being the latest time for registration of renunciation.

Further information on stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax is set out in paragraph 14(D) of Part Seven of the Prospectus.

4 **PERSONAL EQUITY PLANS ("PEPs")**

A PEP permits returns from shares held within such a scheme on behalf of qualifying individuals to be completely free of income and capital gains tax although any losses resulting from investments within a PEP are not allowable for capital gains tax purposes. All tax credits on dividends from shares in a PEP can be reclaimed and may be reinvested or distributed.

The maximum amount a qualifying individual can invest in a general PEP in each tax year is currently £6,000. In the case of a married couple, each spouse is treated separately, so a couple can invest, in total a maximum of £12,000 in each tax year. The maximum amount a qualifying individual can invest in a single company PEP in each tax year is currently £3,000, in addition or as an alternative to investing up to £6,000 in a general PEP in the same tax year.

Subject to these limits, a PEP manager may acquire ordinary shares under the Public Offer (excluding the special arrangements for Preferential Applicants) for the benefit of an individual and/or that individual may apply personally in the Public Offer (including the special arrangements for Preferential Applicants) and (if the application is successful) transfer those ordinary shares into a general PEP and/or single company PEP within 42 days of allocation. To transfer the ordinary shares into either a general PEP or a single company PEP, the ordinary shares must be acquired in your name, not in joint names or the name of a broker, nominee or company.

The above information on PEPs is based upon the law and practice currently in force and is subject to changes therein.

Any person who is in any doubt as to his position should consult an appropriate professional adviser.

KEY INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

House of Fraser is a prestigious department store group with stores located in most major cities and many principal towns in the UK. It is one of the UK's largest department store groups, with 56 stores trading under 17 well-known names: Army & Navy, Arnotts, Barkers, Binns, Cavendish House, David Evans, DH Evans, Dickins & Jones, Dingles, Frasers, Hammonds, House of Fraser, Howells, Jollys, Kendals, Rackhams and Schofields.

House of Fraser's business is based on the sale of a wide variety of well-known brands. It serves a broad customer base but has particular strengths in sales to higher income groups, women and those over 35 years old. House of Fraser expects to benefit from the projected rise in the average age and affluence of the UK population during the 1990s.

Since 1985, the House of Fraser business has formed part of the group of companies owned by the Fayed family. Brian McGowan was appointed Chairman of House of Fraser (Stores) in July 1993 in succession to Ali Fayed, who resigned. Since that time, the business has been managed for all practical purposes as if it were an independent company. House of Fraser's business was already largely autonomous operationally and has now been separated in all material respects from those businesses, including Harrods, being retained by the Fayed family.

Business strategy

Under the leadership of Andrew Jennings, who joined the Group in 1992, the current management team is in the process of implementing a strategy designed to build sales and increase profit margins.

Central to this strategy are:

- matching the merchandise carried by each store more closely with local customer profiles and available selling space;
- allocation of more selling space to higher margin womenswear, menswear and fashion accessories;
- an expanded programme of capital expenditure including store refurbishments and further improvements to the Group's information systems; and
- a higher level of marketing expenditure and a particular focus on the Group's 640,000 active Frasercard holders.

Financial performance

In the year ended 29th January, 1994, House of Fraser generated operating profit before exceptional items of £45.0 million on turnover of £721.7 million and average selling space of 5.0 million sq ft. In the three-year period ended January 1994, turnover from continuing and new stores increased by a total of 14.7 per cent and Group operating profit before discontinued activities more than doubled.

As at 29th January, 1994, net borrowings were £93.0 million and shareholders' funds were £248.2 million, resulting in a gearing ratio of 37.5 per cent. The Group's freehold and long leasehold properties have been revalued by independent valuers as at 29th January, 1994. The net book value of the Group's property portfolio is £266.0 million.

HOUSE OF FRASER

The stores

House of Fraser has developed its store portfolio through a series of refurbishments and a programme of openings and closures. Six modern stores, including three in out-of-town locations, have been added and over 50 stores have been closed since 1985. The rationalisation of the store portfolio is largely complete with only a few further store closures contemplated in the medium term. The average store size is now approximately 85,000 sq ft.

House of Fraser stores are not uniform in character, varying considerably in size and format. Many of the Group's stores have strong individual identities which it is intended will be retained.

Capital expenditure over the last seven years on the current 56 stores has exceeded £120 million, of which approximately £50 million was spent on refurbishment of continuing stores and approximately £30 million on fitting out new stores. Over 85 per cent of House of Fraser's selling space is on freehold and long leasehold sites owned by the Group; as a result, rents were only two per cent of 1994 sales.

Management is confident that there are substantial opportunities to increase the rate of growth in sales and profit through further capital expenditure. The Group plans to spend some £23 million on refurbishments affecting 16 stores in the current financial year and to maintain this level of capital expenditure over the next two years. House of Fraser will also pursue suitable opportunities to open new town centre stores and to secure new anchor sites in out-of-town developments.

Merchandise

The Group sells a wide variety of branded womenswear, fashion accessories, cosmetics, homewares, menswear, furniture, electrical appliances and childrenswear. Significant use is made of concessions to broaden, at minimal risk to the Group, the range of fashionable merchandise available. House of Fraser has largely discontinued marginal product groups and reduced duplication between brands to enable it to provide a more focused product range.

The fashion content of merchandise carried by each store is being more closely related to its customer profile and the number of departments and ranges within departments are being aligned to store size. Stores with more affluent customer profiles will generally stock merchandise with a higher fashion content and smaller stores will generally operate fewer departments. More contemporary merchandise will be introduced, aimed at the fashion conscious consumer, whilst the womenswear, menswear and fashion accessories departments will be expanded.

Promotions and advertising

National and regional advertising, point-of-sale literature and direct marketing (particularly to Frasercard holders) are all used to highlight price advantages, introduce new and exclusive merchandise and promote sales. National and regional advertising is also used to promote the House of Fraser name and the link with the local store names.

Management believes that, as the outlook for consumer spending improves, the need for short tactical price promotions may decline in favour of marketing which emphasises the breadth and fashion content of House of Fraser's merchandise range. Expenditure on advertising, direct marketing, point-of-sale literature and the visual presentation of merchandise is budgeted to increase by over 35 per cent in this financial year.

Frasercard

The Group's 640,000 active Frasercard holders provide a valuable, loyal customer base which accounted for approximately 25 per cent of 1994 sales. The Frasercard and the Group's credit business were sold to First Personal Bank, a subsidiary of GE Capital, in June 1991. Since that time, House of Fraser's business has been cash-based, involving virtually no credit risk. Management intends to expand the Frasercard base through continued marketing and the introduction of further exclusive services.

Purchasing and supply

As a result of a strategy to improve relationships with a core group of suppliers and of a programme to rationalise the product range, the number of suppliers to the Group has been reduced significantly. The Group operates incentive bonus schemes with some 500 suppliers, which provide for rebates on achievement of order quantity targets. The reduction in the number of suppliers and the incentive bonus schemes have produced cost savings.

House of Fraser intends to extend these incentive bonus schemes to additional suppliers and, with a view to improving gross margins, to increase substantially the percentage of merchandise bought directly from overseas suppliers over the next three years. Management is also investigating the use of distribution centres to co-ordinate deliveries to stores.

Information systems

House of Fraser's existing information systems, which include EPoS terminals in all stores, allow effective financial controls and provide accurate and comprehensive sales and stock information.

House of Fraser has commissioned a new retail system at a cost of some £9.5 million. This system, which should be fully operational by Spring 1996, has been designed to provide fully integrated planning and forecasting information and to allow comprehensive purchase management, leading to improved decisions on the amount and mix of merchandise stocked in each store. A further £10 million has been budgeted for the introduction of a new generation of EPoS terminals over the next three to four years.

Management and employees

House of Fraser's management has been strengthened over recent years, particularly at senior executive and store management levels. In addition, at store level, the replacement of full time with more part time staff has led to improved productivity and quality of customer service. A number of functions including buying, finance, information systems, marketing, personnel and property, are managed centrally.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Trading record

The summarised profit and loss accounts and statistics on funds from operations set out below have been extracted from the Accountants' Report set out in Part Six. The operating data have been derived from a combination of information contained in the Accountants' Report and in the Company's records.

Summarised profit and loss accounts	1992 £m	1993(1) £m	1994 £m
Turnover	657.9	694.2	721.7
Gross profit	218.3	231.9	244.6
Net operating expenses(2)	(201.6)	(194.6)	(200.7)
Operating profit before other income/(expenses)	16.7	37.3	43.9
Other income/(expenses)	3.7	(1.2)	1.1
Operating profit before discontinued activities	20.4	36.1	45.0
Operating profit from discontinued activities	6.0	—	—
Operating profit before exceptional items	26.4	36.1	45.0
Exceptional items			
Sale of credit business	5.0	0.1	—
Loss on disposal of properties	(1.1)	(0.1)	(3.7)
Profit before interest and tax	30.3	36.1	41.3
Interest	(19.2)	(12.2)	(6.8)
Profit before tax	11.1	23.9	34.5
Profit after tax(3)	5.9	9.6	23.1
Earnings per ordinary share before exceptional items	1.4p	4.2p	11.1p
Earnings per ordinary share after exceptional items	2.6p	4.2p	10.1p

	1992	1993(1)	1994
Funds from operations (£m)(4)	36.3	51.6	59.8
Operating data			
Number of stores	63	59	56(5)
Selling space (million sq ft)	5.15	5.08	4.74(5)
Sales per sq ft of selling space (£)(6)	128	136	144
Sales per FTE employee (£000)(7)	63	75	90

Notes

(1) 1993 was a 53-week period. All other periods are of 52 weeks.

(2) Includes pension credits arising from the pension fund surplus: 1992, £3.8 million; 1993, £4.9 million; 1994, nil.

(3) The 1992 and 1993 tax charges represent group relief payments at rates higher than the then applicable corporation tax rates. The 1994 tax charge is based on a corporation tax rate of 33 per cent.

(4) Comprises operating profit before discontinued activities plus depreciation.

(5) Measured as at 29th January, 1994, taking account of the closure of the Army & Navy stores in Lewisham and Gravesend and Arnotts in Glasgow, which took place at or since the year end. The selling space of these stores was 0.2 million sq ft.

(6) Calculated by dividing sales by average selling space.

(7) Calculated by dividing sales by the average number of FTE employees (which excludes concessionaires' employees).

In the three-year period to January 1994, Group sales increased by 9.7 per cent to £721.7 million despite a four per cent reduction in selling space and sales of continuing and new stores increased by a total of 14.7 per cent. Greater sales volume and changes in the mix of merchandise contributed to a 12.0 per cent increase in gross profit over the period. Despite the increase in sales, operating expenses (before pension credits) declined by 2.3 per cent to £200.7 million, due primarily to lower staff costs. As a result, operating profit before other income/(expenses) and pension credits increased from a depressed level of £12.9 million in 1992 to £43.9 million in 1994, representing an underlying increase in operating margins from 2.0 per cent to 6.1 per cent.

Other income/(expenses) comprises income and costs which are either non-recurring or income not directly related to store operations. Operating profit from discontinued activities represents the net income earned on customer credit before the sale of the credit business to First Personal Bank in June 1991. After other income/(expenses) and profit from discontinued activities, operating profit before exceptional items rose from £26.4 million in 1992 to £45.0 million in 1994.

Exceptional items include profits on the sale of the credit business of £5.0 million in 1992 and £0.1 million in 1993. Following store closures, sales of properties at below net book values gave rise to aggregate exceptional losses of £4.9 million in the three-year period ended January 1994. Cash proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets, primarily properties, totalled £12.6 million over the same period.

The interest charge has been calculated by applying the actual interest rate borne by the Harrods Investments group over the period to the portion of Harrods Investments group indebtedness which represented the funding requirement of House of Fraser. The interest charge declined in 1993 due to a reduction in the Group's working capital requirements following the sale of the credit business. The historic interest charge is not, therefore, necessarily representative of the future charge for House of Fraser. After exceptional items and interest charges, profit on ordinary activities before tax increased from £11.1 million in 1992 to £34.5 million in 1994.

The Group generates significant amounts of cash from operations. Operating profit before discontinued activities plus depreciation has risen from £36.3 million in 1992 to £59.8 million in 1994. The Directors aim to fund the Group's capital expenditure programme from its own resources.

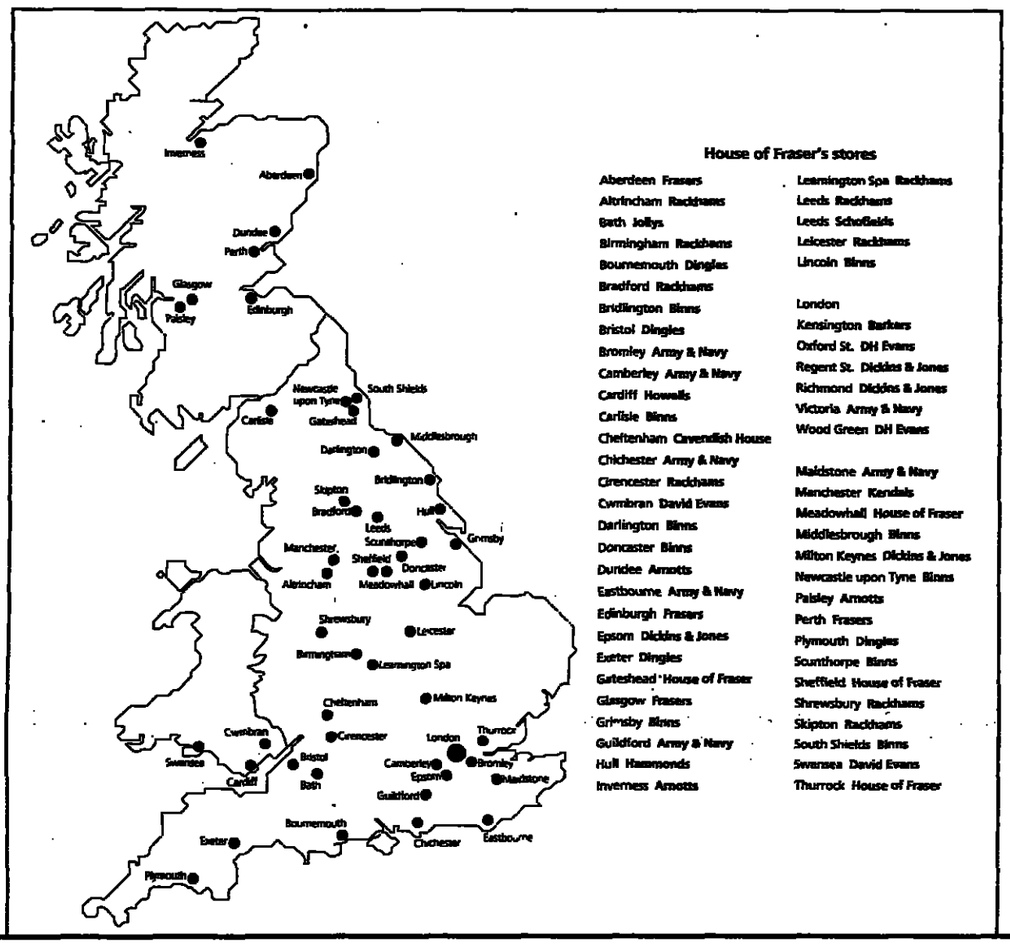
Current trading and prospects

The year has started well following a strong performance over the Christmas period and during the Winter sale. Management is confident that the continued implementation of its strategy will enable the Group to take full advantage of any improvement in consumer spending and will strengthen the Group's competitive position in the medium and longer term.

Dividends

The ordinary shares which are the subject of the Offer rank in full for all dividends or other distributions declared, made or paid in respect of the ordinary share capital of the Company after Listing. If the ordinary shares had been listed on the London Stock Exchange for the whole of 1994 with the current capital structure, the Directors believe that they would have been justified in recommending a dividend of 5.0 pence per ordinary share (6.25 pence per ordinary share inclusive of the associated 20 per cent tax credit) in respect of that year. This takes into account the level of profits before exceptional items, store and other closure costs and income from rate rebates, together with the Director's current view of the prospects for House of Fraser's business.

The Directors intend that an interim dividend will be paid in December and a final dividend in June of each year, in the approximate proportions of one-third and two-thirds, respectively, of the total annual dividend. The Directors intend that the first dividend will be payable in December 1994.



House of Fraser's stores

Aberdeen Frasers
Altrincham Rackhams
Bath Jollys
Birmingham Rackhams
Bournemouth Dingles
Bradford Rackhams
Bridlington Binns
Bristol Dingles
Bromley Army & Navy
Camberley Army & Navy
Cardiff Howells
Carlisle Binns
Cheltenham Cavendish House
Chichester Army & Navy
Cirencester Rackhams
Cwmbran David Evans
Darlington Binns
Doncaster Binns
Dundee Arnotts
Eastbourne Army & Navy
Edinburgh Frasers
Epsom Dickins & Jones
Exeter Dingles
Gateshead House of Fraser
Glasgow Frasers
Grimsby Binns
Guildford Army & Navy
Hull Hammonds
Inverness Arnotts
Leamington Spa Rackhams
Leeds Rackhams
Leeds Schofields
Leicester Rackhams
Lincoln Binns

London
Kensington Barkers
Oxford St. DH Evans
Regent St. Dickins & Jones
Richmond Dickins & Jones
Victoria Army & Navy
Wood Green DH Evans

Maidstone Army & Navy
Manchester Kendals
Meadowhall House of Fraser
Middlesbrough Binns
Milton Keynes Dickins & Jones
Newcastle upon Tyne Binns
Paisley Arnotts
Perth Frasers
Plymouth Dingles
Scunthorpe Binns
Sheffield House of Fraser
Shrewsbury Rackhams
Skipton Rackhams
South Shields Binns
Swansea David Evans
Thurrock House of Fraser

GUIDE TO THE PUBLIC APPLICATION FORM

The following instructions should be read in conjunction with the Public Application Form.

SECTION 1
Insert in Section 1 (in figures) the number of ordinary shares for which you are applying.

Applications must be for a minimum of 200 ordinary shares and in one of the following multiples:

for more than 200 ordinary shares but not more than 1,000 ordinary shares in a multiple of 100 ordinary shares;

for more than 1,000 ordinary shares, but not more than 2,000 ordinary shares, in a multiple of 500 ordinary shares;

for more than 2,000 ordinary shares, but not more than 10,000 ordinary shares, in a multiple of 1,000 ordinary shares;

for more than 10,000 ordinary shares, but not more than 50,000 ordinary shares, in a multiple of 5,000 ordinary shares; and

for more than 50,000 ordinary shares, in a multiple of 10,000 ordinary shares.

A Public Application Form for any other number of ordinary shares may be rejected.

SECTION 2
Insert in Section 2 (in figures) the amount of your payment.

The amount of your cheque or banker's draft should be the Offer Price of 180 pence multiplied by the number of ordinary shares inserted in Section 1. For example:

Number of ordinary shares applied for	Amount you must pay
200	£360
300	£540
400	£720
500	£900
600	£1,080
700	£1,260
800	£1,440
900	£1,620
1,000	£1,800
1,500	£2,700
2,000	£3,600

SECTION 3
Sign and date the Public Application Form in Section 3.

The Public Application Form may be signed by someone else on your behalf (and/or on behalf of any joint applicant(s)) if duly authorised by power of attorney to do so, but the power of attorney pursuant to which this is done (or a copy certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed for inspection. A corporation should sign under the hand of a duly authorised officer whose representative capacity must be stated.

SECTION 4
Insert your full name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS in Section 4.

Applications may only be made by persons aged 18 (or 20 if resident in Jersey) or over. However, a parent, grandparent or guardian of a person under 18 (or 20 if resident in Jersey) may apply for the benefit of that minor. To apply for the benefit of a minor, you should put your own name in full in Section 4 and complete the minor's details box, within Section 4, with the full name of the minor and the minor's date of birth. You are not thereby precluded from making a single application for your own benefit. See notes to Section 6 for joint applications.

SECTION 5
You must pin to the completed Public Application Form a single cheque (which may be drawn on a bank or building society) or banker's draft for the full amount payable. Your cheque or banker's draft must be made payable to "Lloyds Bank Plc A/C House of Fraser PLC Offer" for the amount payable on application inserted in Section 2 and should be crossed "Account Payee". No receipt will be issued for this payment, which must be solely for this application.

Cheques or banker's drafts must be drawn in sterling on an account at a branch of a bank in the United Kingdom which is either a settlement member of the Cheque and Credit Clearing Company Limited or the CHAPS & Town Clearing Company Limited or a member of either of the committees of the Scottish or Belfast Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheques and banker's drafts to be cleared through the facilities provided by either of those companies or those committees and must bear the appropriate sort code number in the top right hand corner.

Applications may be accompanied by a cheque or a banker's draft drawn by someone other than the applicant(s), but any monies to be returned will be sent by cheque crossed "Account Payee" in favour of the person named in Section 4.

If you are also applying on the Preferential Application Form (available to Preferential Applicants only), you must pin a separate cheque or banker's draft to the Preferential Application Form.

SECTION 6
You may apply jointly with up to three other persons.

If you do so, you must then arrange for the Public Application Form to be completed by or on behalf of each joint applicant (up to a maximum of three other persons, in addition to the first applicant). Their full names and addresses should be put in BLOCK CAPITALS in Section 6. A letter of allocation in the names of joint applicants will be sent to the applicant named in Section 4.

IMPORTANT: If you make a joint application, you will not be able to transfer the shares into a PEP. If you are interested in transferring your shares into a PEP, you should apply in your name only.

Section 6 must be signed by or on behalf of each joint applicant other than the first applicant who should sign in Section 3 and complete Section 4. If any individual is signing on behalf of any joint applicant(s), the power(s) of attorney (or a copy (copies) certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed for inspection.

SECTION 7
If you are unable to warrant in the terms of any of points (i), (ii) or (iii) set out in Section 7, you must delete the relevant warranty and give such further information as is requested.

You must send the completed Public Application Form together with the cheque or banker's draft by post, or deliver it by hand, to Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, Receiving Bank Services, Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL.

If you post your Public Application Form, you are recommended to use first class post and allow at least two working days for delivery. Photostat copies of Public Application Forms will not be accepted. Multiple or suspected multiple applications on Public Application Forms may be rejected in their entirety.

If you have any questions as to how to complete the Public Application Form please telephone 0800 800 400.

AVAILABILITY OF PROSPECTUS AND PUBLIC APPLICATION FORM

Copies of the Prospectus and the enclosed Public Application Form may be obtained during normal business hours from:

S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd. 2 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA

Lloyds Bank Plc Lloyds Bank Registrars, Receiving Bank Services Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL

House of Fraser PLC 1 Howick Place, London SW1P 1BH

House of Fraser PLC 1 Blythswood Square, Glasgow G2 4AD

and from the customer services department of all House of Fraser stores.

HOUSE OF FRASER

PUBLIC APPLICATION FORM

Public Offer by S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd. of 57,400,000 ordinary shares of 20 pence each in House of Fraser PLC ("ordinary shares") at 180 pence per share, payable in full on application. Before making any application to acquire shares, you are recommended to consult an independent financial adviser authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986. To help fill out each section of this form please refer to the corresponding section number in the Guide to the Public Application Form set out opposite.

SECTION 1
I/We offer to acquire _____ ordinary shares

at the Offer Price of 180 pence per share (or any smaller number of shares for which this application is accepted) payable in full on application on the terms and conditions set out in the Prospectus dated 17th March, 1994 and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of House of Fraser

SECTION 2
I/We attach a cheque or banker's draft for the amount payable to "Lloyds Bank Plc A/C House of Fraser PLC Offer" (180 pence multiplied by the number of ordinary shares inserted in Section 1) £ _____

SECTION 3
Signature _____ Dated _____ March, 1994

SECTION 4
Applicant's name and address: PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Forename(s) (in full) Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss or title _____
Surname _____
Address (in full) _____
_____
_____ Postcode _____

Minor's forename(s) (in full) Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss or title _____
Surname _____ Date of birth _____

SECTION 5
☐ Pin your cheque or banker's draft here made payable to "Lloyds Bank Plc A/C House of Fraser PLC Offer" and crossed "Account Payee" for the amount set out in Section 2.

SECTION 6
Additional joint applicant(s) (if any): PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

	APPLICANT 2	APPLICANT 3	APPLICANT 4
Forename(s) (in full) Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss or title			
Surname			
Signature			

SECTION 7 TI/19/3/94

Warranties given

Except to the extent that you delete any of the following, you warrant that:

(i) I am/We are not applying as, or as (a) nominee(s) or agent(s) of (a) person(s) who is/are or may be, (a) person(s) mentioned in any of sections 67, 70, 93 or 96 of the Finance Act 1986 (depositary receipts and clearance services).

(ii) I am/We are not applying as, or as (a) nominee(s) or agent(s) of (a) person(s) who is/are, (a) market maker(s) in ordinary shares in House of Fraser PLC within the meaning of section 81 of the Finance Act 1986. If this warranty is deleted, please state the date on which application for registration as a market maker in respect of such ordinary shares was made to the London Stock Exchange.

(iii) I am/We are not applying as, or as (a) nominee(s) or trustee(s) of, a body of persons established for charitable purposes only. If this warranty is deleted, please state the name of the charity and its registered number (where applicable).

Applications must be received by 10 am on Friday, 25th March, 1994. The completed Public Application Form together with a cheque or banker's draft for the amount payable should be posted, or delivered by hand, to Lloyds Bank Plc, Lloyds Bank Registrars, Receiving Bank Services, Antholin House, 71 Queen Street, London EC4N 1SL. Any person signing this Public Application Form under a power of attorney must enclose the original power of attorney (or a copy certified by a solicitor) for inspection.

For use by intermediaries who have signed the Letter Agreement with S.G.Warburg Securities Ltd.
Intermediaries registration no. TI-19-3-94

Shares suffer sizeable losses in nervous trading

STOCK MARKET

TRIPLE witching hours on both sides of the Atlantic, a depressed bond market and a move towards higher American interest rates left share prices on the London stock market nursing sizeable losses.

In nervous trading, the FT-SE 100 index tumbled almost 60 points at one stage before recovering its poise, helped by a rally on Wall Street. It ended 37.6 points down at 3,218.1. In spite of yesterday's setback, the index ended the week 26.2 points up.

News of a rise in US prime rates overnight by one of the smaller banks and the expiry of the FT-SE March traded options provided a nervous start to business. The announcement that Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, had cancelled a speech for a meeting with President Clinton intensified speculation that American interest rates were set to rise.

But the London market rallied towards the close, helped by a similar recovery in New York after the triple witching hour passed without event. The bond market added to investors' worries, with sharp falls that culminated in the Bank of England issuing its first floating rate gilt for more than a decade.

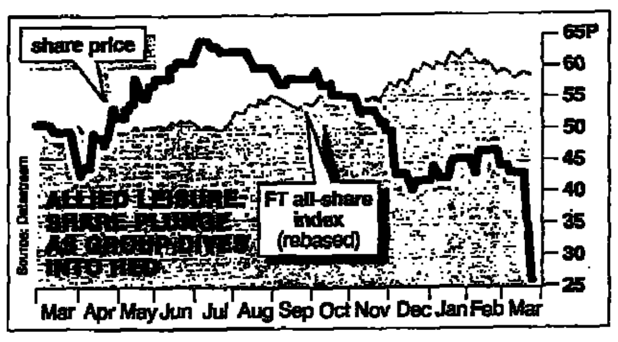
However, conditions were thin and largely technical as traders moved to cover open positions. By the close of business, only 602 million shares had changed hands.

Among leaders, **Thorn EMI** fell 22p to £11.22 as its court battle about contracts with George Michael, the singer, drew to a close in the High Court.

Vendome, the luxury goods group floated off from Rothmans International last year, climbed 12p to 428p with Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, leading the buyers.

The merchant banks came in for profit-taking after a strong run on the back of a successful reporting season. **Kleinwort Benson** fell 12p to 526p, **Schroders** 54p to £11.69, and **SG Warburg** 19p to 765p.

There was news of several



rights issues. **McCarthy & Stone**, the sheltered accommodation builder, is raising £15.5 million by way of a two-for-five at 58p in order to increase its land bank. The shares firmed 1p to 73p.

Shandwick, the public relations group, is also asking shareholders for an extra £19 million via a one-for-two rights issue at 45p. The money is to be used to reduce borrowing, provide increased flexibility and allow the group to capitalise on improving trading conditions. The shares rose 3½p to 59½p.

Allied Leisure dropped 16p to 27p after ploughing into the red at the half-way stage with a pre-tax deficit of £16.12 million against a profit of £1.24 million. Richard Carr, chief executive, has resigned and the group is embarking on a major restructuring.

Anglian Group, the double-glazing specialist, lost 28p at 287p after saying that pre-tax profits for the current year would be at the lower end of market forecasts.

A profits warning also left **Borthwicks** 2p cheaper at 53½p. It blames the setback on a bad winter in the US and start-up costs in Hong Kong.

Davenport Vernon was another casualty, falling 20p to 132p after warning shareholders at the annual meeting that profits for the first six months of the current year would be significantly below those of the corresponding period. **Partco** established a healthy premium in first-time trading, with the price opening at 223p, compared with the original offer price of 200p. The shares closed at 224p, a premium of 24p.

Shares of **Xtra-Vision**, the video rental group, were suspended at 2¼p after an application was made to the High Court in Dublin for an examiner to be appointed. The group says this will enable proposed restructuring to proceed.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts suffered hefty losses after news of the rise in US prime rates but closed off the bottom, having almost halved earlier falls. Confusion was caused by the Bank of England's announcement that it intended to issue a floating rate gilt via auction.

The June series of the Long Gilt touched a low for the day of £108³/₈ before ending £⅞ down at £109¹¹/₃₂ with 110,000 contracts completed.

In the cash market, the longer end bore the brunt of the falls, with Treasury 9 per cent 2012 falling £1³/₈ to £113¾, while in shorts, Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was £¹⁹/₃₂ lower at £110¹³/₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street shares were mixed at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 2.30 points at 3,867.44. Declining issues led advancing shares by 11 to eight.

MICHAEL CLARK

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $ .... 1.4892 (-0.0079)
German mark .... 2.5257 (+0.0103)
Exchange index .... 80.6 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 .... 3218.1 (-37.6)
Dow Jones .... 3867.44 (+2.30)*
Nikkei Avg .... 20469.45 (-122.71)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 5¼%
3-month Interbank 5¼-5⅛%
US Federal Funds 3⅝%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.49-3.47%*
Long Bond 6.88%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4930*	£:$	1.4909
$:DM	1.6909*	£:DM	2.5249
$:SWfr	1.4343*	£:SWfr	2.1395
$:Ffr	5.7620*	£:Ffr	8.6000
$:Yen	106.03*	£:Yen	158.27
£:SDR	1.0658	£:ECU	1.3057

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 385.90 .... PM 386.55
Close 386.10-386.60
New York:
Comex 386.85-387.35*

OIL

Brent Crude .... $13.60 per bbl (May)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI..141.3 Jan (2.5%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.23	2.03
Austria Sch	18.74	17.24
Belgium Fr	55.20	50.80
Canada $	2.147	1.987
Cyprus Cyp£	0.792	0.742
Denmark Kr	10.50	9.70
Finland Mkk	8.91	8.11
France Fr	9.05	8.35
Germany Dm	2.68	2.47
Greece Dr	386.00	361.00
Hong Kong $	12.18	11.18
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2593.00	2438.00
Japan Yen	173.50	156.50
Malta	0.622	0.567
Netherlds Gld	2.987	2.757
Norway Kr	11.54	10.74
Portugal Esc	270.50	252.00
S Africa Rd	5.90	5.00
Spain Pta	214.50	200.50
Sweden Kr	12.29	11.49
Switzerland Fr	2.28	2.10
Turkey Lira	32500.0	30000.0
USA $	1.590	1.460

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

New lease for London Capital

BY CARL MORTISHED

THE West End meets the City with the flotation of London Capital Holdings next month. The property group emerged from the collapse of Randsworth Trust with a £228 million portfolio of properties in Mayfair, St James's, Kensington and Knightsbridge.

Citibank, which took control of the properties from the receivers of Randsworth Trust in 1993, is to sell between 65 and 75 per cent in a placing and public offer sponsored by Baring Brothers, the merchant bank.

Nigel Kempner, joint managing director of London Capital, said it would continue to invest exclusively in the West End. "Supply is restricted and demand for space in the West End core is strong," he said.

☐ Fiscal Properties published the pathfinder prospectus yesterday for a £25 million share and loan stock placing and listing on the Stock Exchange. Its £53 million portfolio made rental income of £4.4 million, with pre-tax profits of £247,000, in 1993.

Shandwick calls for £19m to aid recovery

BY JON ASHWORTH

SHANDWICK, Peter Gummer's international public relations group, launched an £18.9 million rights issue designed to put it on the road to recovery. The group also announced its intention to resume paying dividends after a turbulent three years that saw the share price collapse and that were marked by sharp criticism of Mr Gummer, the founder and chairman.



Peter Gummer, chairman, ruled out a new buying spree

Shandwick's problems exploded in December 1991, with a profits warning that saw the share price plummet from 125p to 52½p and brought the admission that "several million pounds" had been wasted chasing international business that had failed to materialise. In 1992, the share price hit a low of 2p.

Yesterday, the shares rose 3½p to 59½p against a falling market, in spite of an apparent hint by Shandwick that it planned another "dash for growth". The rights issue proceeds, it said, would give it "greater flexibility to capitalise on trading opportunities as the world's economies improve".

Mr Gummer denied plans for a new buying spree, saying he had learnt his lesson. "Buying is off the list," he said. "We stopped our acquisitions programme when we hit the buffers. Our acquisition strategy was right, our financial strategy was wrong."

Poor management played a part. Shandwick said, in a statement: "The group entered the recent worldwide recession with a highly geared balance sheet and an organisational structure which reflected its rapid international development." Half of its business is in North America. The company responded by cutting overheads and restructuring. In the year to last October, it made a pre-tax profit of £4.8 million, compared with a restated loss of £2.5 million the previous time.

Lazard Brothers is underwriting the proposed one-for-two rights issue at 45p per share. Shandwick plans an interim dividend of 0.43p in September, and a final of 0.87p in the spring of 1995.

An extraordinary meeting has been called for April 11.

Tempus, page 25

Anglian warning

Anglian Group, the double glazing company, saw its shares fall 28p to 287p as it warned the stock market that full-year profits for the year to April 2, 1994, would be towards the bottom of City expectations. The company said sales and margins had suffered in its commercial division even though orders from domestic customers were up.

Sirdar ahead

Sirdar, the textiles and hand-knitting yarns concern, slightly increased profits in the last six months of 1993, in spite of a difficult hand-knitting market. Taxable profits rose by 5 per cent to £2.8 million (£2.67 million) The interim dividend is up 4 per cent, to 1.72p a share.

Signet pair

Signet Group, the H Samuel to Ratners jewellery retailer, has moved to strengthen its board with the appointment of two more directors. They will be "alternates" to two existing directors.

Shell float

Shell Australia, part of the Anglo-Dutch oil group, plans to float its entire Australian metals portfolio, other than its interest in Worsley Alumina.

	Mar 18 midday	Mar 17 close
AMP Inc	63¾	63¾
AMR Corp	62¾	63
Abbott Labs	28⅝	28¾
Aetna Life	57	57¼
Ahmanson (HF)	17½	17¾
Air Prod & Chem	48⅝	48¾
Albertson's	29	28⅞
Alcan Aluminum	24¼	24¼
Alco Standard	56¾	56¾
Allied Signal	38⅝	38¼
Alum Co of Am	77⅞	75¾
Amax Gold Inc	7⅛	7¼
Amerada Hess	48⅝	49⅛
Amer Brands	31½	31¼
Amer Cyanamid	44⅝	44
Amer El Power	32⅝	32¼
Amer Express	30	30⅛
Amer Genl Corp	28⅝	28⅛
Amer Home Pr	59⅝	59⅝
Amer Intl	84½	84¼
Amer Stores	52	52
Amer T & T	53⅞	53⅛
Ameritech	40⅝	41¼
Amoco	55¼	55⅛
Anheuser-Busch	51½	50⅞
Apple Computer	36	36⅛
Archer Daniels	25⅜	25¼
Arkla	7⅛	7⅛
Armco	5⅞	5⅞
Armstrng Wrld	56	56
Asarco	26⅞	26⅛
Ashland Oil	43⅝	43⅞
Atl Richfield	101½	101¼
Auto Data Pro	54⅝	54¼
Avery Dennison	30¼	30⅛
Avon Products	56⅝	56⅞
Baker Hughes	20⅛	20⅛
Baltim Gas & El	22⅝	22⅝
Banc One	34⅝	34½
BankAmerica	42⅝	42¼
Bank of NY	53⅝	53⅛
Bankers Tr NY	75⅝	76⅛
Barnett Banks	45⅝	45¼
Bausch & Lomb	49⅛	49
Baxter Intl	23⅛	23⅞
Bectn Dicknsn	40⅞	40¼
Bell Atlantic	52⅝	53
BellSouth	55⅛	55
Black & Decker	21½	21½
Block (H&R)	46⅛	46¼
Boeing	46⅛	45⅞
Boise Cascade	25⅞	26
Borden Inc	14⅝	14⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	54½	54¼
Browning Ferris	28⅝	29
Brunswick	23⅛	23⅞
Burlington Nthn	65⅝	66
CBS	318	321
CNA Financial	68⅛	68½
CPC Intl	48⅛	47⅞
CSX	88⅞	88⅝
Campbell Soup	40	40⅞
Can Pacific	17½	17⅞
Cpd Cities ABC	704⅛	705
Cpd Holdings	33	33⅝
Carolina Pwr	26⅞	27
Caterpillar	119⅝	119⅝
Central & SW	25⅞	25⅞
Champion Intl	29⅞	30⅛
Chase Manhat	32⅝	33⅞
Chemical Bk	38½	38⅛
Chevron Corp	91¼	91¼
Chrysler	58⅞	58⅛
Chubb Corp	74⅞	75
Cigna Corp	63	63¼
Citicorp	39⅞	41
Clorox	52⅜	52⅝
Coastal Corp	33	33⅞
Coca Cola	41¼	41¼
Colgate-Palmolive	63⅝	63⅛
Columbia Gas	29⅝	29⅛
Commonw Ed	27	27⅛
Compaq Comp	104⅛	104¼
Comp Ass Int	39⅝	39⅞
Conagra	28⅞	28⅛
Cons Edison	30⅞	30⅝
Cons Nat Gas	43⅝	42⅞
Cons Rail	60⅝	61¼
Cooper Inds	39⅝	38⅛
Corning Inc	32⅞	31
Crown Cork	41	39⅞
Dana Corp	57⅞	57⅛
Dayton Hudson	75¼	75
Deere	90	90⅛
Delta Air Lines	48⅞	49⅞
Deluxe Corp	30⅝	31⅛
Detroit Edison	27⅛	27⅛
Digital Equip	33⅞	33
Dillard Dept St	34½	34⅞
Disney (Walt)	45⅝	45⅞
Dominion Res	41¼	41½
Donnelley (RR)	30⅞	30⅛
Dover Corp	65⅝	65⅛
Dow Chemical	65	65⅞
Dow Jones	40⅞	41
Dresser	24⅛	24⅛
Duke Power	37⅛	38⅛
Dun & Brdstreet	60	60
Du Pont	59	58⅞
Eastman Kodak	44⅝	45

	Mar 18 midday	Mar 17 close
Eaton Corp	58⅝	59⅝
Emerson Elec	63⅝	63⅛
Engelhard Corp	31	30⅝
Enron Corp	34	33⅞
Entergy	32⅛	32⅝
Ethyl Corp	12⅝	12⅞
Exxon	65⅝	65⅛
FMC Corp	48	47⅞
FPL Group	34⅝	34⅞
Federal Express	70	71¼
Fed Nat Mtge	83	83⅞
First Chicago	49⅝	49⅝
First Interstate	72⅛	71¼
First Union Rlty	7⅛	7⅛
Fleet Fini Grp	37⅝	37
Fluor Corp	51½	51¼
Ford Motor	61¼	62⅝
GTE Corp	32	32⅞
Gannett	55⅝	54¼
Gap Inc Del	45⅝	45⅝
Gen Dynamics	91½	91⅞
Gen Electric	103⅝	103
Gen Mills	56⅛	55⅞
Gen Motors	60	60⅞
Gen Reinsurance	108⅝	106⅞
Gen Signal	35⅝	36
Genuine Parts	36⅝	37⅝
Georgia Pac	68⅝	68⅞
Gillette	66⅝	66⅝
Glaxo ADR	20⅞	20⅛
Goodrich (BF)	43⅝	43⅝
Goodyear Tire	45⅝	45⅝
Grace (W&R)	43⅝	43⅝
Gt Atl Pac Tea	26⅝	26⅛
Great Wstn Fin	17⅝	17⅞
Halliburton	32⅝	32⅝
Harcourt General	36⅝	36⅛
Heinz (HJ)	32⅛	32⅝
Hercules	118	117
Hershey Foods	49⅝	49⅛
Hewlett Packard	89⅝	89⅝
Hilton Hotels	69⅝	70⅛
Home Depot	42⅝	42⅝
Homestake Mng	20⅞	20⅛
Honeywell	34⅛	34⅝
Household Intl	34⅛	34⅛
Houston Inds	37⅝	37⅝
Humana	20⅝	20⅝
ITT Corp	86⅛	86⅝
Illinois Tool	44¼	44⅝
INCO	25⅝	25⅝
Ingersoll Rand	39⅝	39⅝
Inland Steel	34⅛	34
Intel Corp	71⅞	72⅛
IBM	57⅝	57⅝
Intl Flav & Fr	36⅛	36⅝
Intl Paper	69⅝	69⅝
James River Va	18⅝	18⅝
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	39⅝	39⅝
Kellogg	49⅝	48⅝
Kerr-McGee	46⅝	46⅝
Kimberly-Clark	56⅛	56⅛
Kmart	18	18⅞
Knight-Ridder	60⅝	60⅝
Lilly (Eli)	53	52⅝
Limited Inc	19⅞	19⅝
LIN Brdcstng	110	109⅞
Lincoln Nat	42⅛	41¼
Litton	32	74⅛
Liz Claiborne	22⅝	22⅞
Lockheed Corp	67	66⅞
Louisiana Pac	40⅛	40⅝
MCI Commun	25	25
Marriott Int	31½	31¼
Marsh & McLen	84	83⅞
Masco Corp	34⅝	33⅞
May Dept St	44⅝	44⅛
Maytag Corp	18⅝	18⅝
McCaw Cellular	52	51⅞
McDonalds	59⅝	59⅝
McDonnell D	115⅞	117⅝
McGraw Hill	72	73
Mead Corp	43⅝	43
Medtronic	81⅞	81¼
Mellon Bk	58⅝	58
Melville Corp	37	36⅛
Merck Inc	31¼	31½
Merrill Lynch	43	43⅞
Minnesota Mine	102	101¼
Mobil Corp	79⅞	79⅛
Monsanto	79	79⅝
Morgan (JP)	65	65
Motorola Inc	108⅝	109⅞
Natl Medical	17⅛	17⅝
Natl Semi	23⅝	23⅝
Natl Service Ind	28	28
Navistar Int	25⅝	25⅝
NBD Bancorp	29	29
NY Times A	28	27⅝
Newmont Mng	54⅝	53⅛
Niag Mohawk	18⅝	18⅝
Nike B	56⅞	57⅝
NL Industries	8⅝	8⅝
Nordstrom	40⅝	40⅞
Norfolk Sthrn	67⅝	67⅛
Ntdn State Pwr	42⅝	42⅝
Norwest Corp	24⅞	24⅛
Nynex Corp	36⅝	36⅝
Occidental Pet	17½	17⅝
Ohio Edison	19⅞	19⅞

	Mar 18 midday	Mar 17 close
Oracle Systems	34½	34⅞
Oryx Energy Co	17⅝	17⅝
Owens Corning	38⅝	38⅝
PNC Financial	27⅝	27⅝
PPG Industries	79⅝	79⅞
Paccar Inc	57	58⅛
Pacificorp	18⅝	18⅝
Pac Enterprises	22⅝	22⅝
Pac Gas & Elect	30⅝	30⅞
Pac Telesis	55⅝	55⅞
Pall Corp	16⅝	17⅛
Panhandle East	22⅛	22⅞
Parker Hannifin	38⅝	37⅝
Peco Energy	27⅝	27⅝
Penney (JC)	56⅞	57⅝
Pennzoil	54	54
Pepsico	37⅛	37⅝
Pfizer	57⅛	57⅝
Phelps Dodge	58⅝	57⅝
Philip Morris	55⅝	55
Phillips Pet	28⅝	29
Pitney Bowes	44⅝	45⅛
Polaroid	33⅝	32⅞
PriceCostco	20⅞	20⅛
Procter & Gmbl	55⅝	55⅝
Pub Serv E & G	28⅝	28⅝
Quaker Oats	64⅝	63⅝
Ralston Purina	44⅝	44⅝
Raychem Corp	40⅝	40⅞
Raytheon	67	67⅛
Reebok Intl	34⅝	35⅛
Reynolds Metals	52⅝	51⅞
Roadway Srvcs	71¼	72⅝
Rockwell Intl	43⅝	43
Rohm & Haas	59⅝	56
Royal Dutch	104⅝	105⅛
Rubbermaid	29⅝	29⅝
Safeco Corp	55⅝	56
St Paul's Cos	80	80⅛
Salomon Inc	51½	52⅝
Santa Fe Pac	24	24⅝
Sara Lee Corp	22	21¼
Scecorp	17⅝	17⅛
Schering Plough	59⅝	59⅞
Schlumberger	58⅝	58⅝
Scott Paper	45⅝	45⅝
Seagram	30⅛	29⅝
Sears Roebuck	47⅝	46⅝
Shell Trans	62	63
Sherwin Wlms	32	32⅝
Skyline Corp	22⅝	22⅝
Snap-On-Tools	43⅝	43⅝
Southern Co	19⅝	19⅝
Sthwestern Bell	40⅝	40⅞
Sprint Corp	34⅝	35
Stanley Works	40⅝	40⅞
Sun Company	34⅝	34⅛
Sun Microsys	30⅛	30⅝
Sunstrust	47	46⅝
Supervalu	34⅛	34⅝
Syntex Corp	15	14⅝
Sysco Corp	27⅝	26⅝
TRW Inc	75⅝	75⅝
Tandem Comp	15⅝	15⅞
Tandy Corp	43⅝	43⅝
Telecom Corp	3⅝	3⅝
Teledyne	19⅞	19⅝
Temple Inland	48⅝	48⅞
Tenneco	57⅝	58
Texaco	66	66
Texas Inst	86½	87⅞
Texas Utilities	37⅞	37⅝
Textron	57⅛	57⅝
Time Warner	43	42⅝
Times-Mirror	33⅝	34⅛
Timken	36⅝	36⅝
Torchmark	43⅝	42⅝
Toys R Us	35⅝	35⅝
Transamerica	53⅝	53⅝
Travelers	36⅝	37⅝
Tribune	60⅝	59⅝
Tyco Labs	54	54
UAL Corp	127	129⅛
UST Inc	27⅝	27⅝
USX Marathon	17⅝	18
Unilever NV	108	110⅝
Union Camp	46⅝	46⅝
Union Carbide	25⅝	25⅝
Union Pacific	59⅝	59⅝
Unisys Corp	15⅝	15⅝
USAIR Group	8⅝	8⅛
USF&G Corp	15⅛	15⅝
US Life	39⅝	39⅝
US West	39⅝	39⅝
United Tech	68⅝	68⅝
Unocal Corp	28⅛	28⅝
Upjohn	30	29⅝
VF Corp	49⅝	49⅝
WMX Tech	25⅝	25⅝
Wal-Mart Stores	27	27⅛
Warner-Lambert	63⅝	63⅝
Wells Fargo	143¼	142⅝
Westinghouse El	13⅝	13⅝
Weyerhaeuser	45⅝	45⅝
Whirlpool	68⅝	69
Whitman	15⅝	15⅝
Winn Dixie	55⅝	54⅝
Woolworth	19⅝	19⅝
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	50⅛	50⅝
Xerox	99⅛	100

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust New Dawn C	243	-3
Applied Distbrs (135)	139	-1
Care UK Wrts	4½	-1
Cedardata (105)	106	...
Chester Water	£87½	...
County Smllr C	125	...
Edinburgh New Tiger (50)	46	-2
F & C Private Eq	49	...
Fidelity Jpn Vals (100)	93	-2
Fidelity Jps Wrts	55	...
Finelist (130)	149	+4
Fleming Japan C	101½	-1½
Franklin Res	£31½	...
Gartmore Brit Inc	102	...
Gartmore Brit Prf	112½	...
Gartmore Brit Uts	213	...
Goldsbrgh Hlth (170)	169	...
Graham Group (183)	216	-1
Guangdong Dvlpt	73¼	+½
Guangdong Dvlpt Wrts	30½	+¼
Israel Fund ($1)	57½	...
Israel Fund Wrts	27½	-¼
Mercury Euro Prvtn	460	+1
Midland Indp Nws (140)	170	-2
Mithras Inv Tst (50)	51	...
Mithras Inv Wrts	26	...
Partco	224	...
Ptarmigan Int'l C	199	...
Radstone Tech (125)	118	...
Saracen Value (100)	95	...
Saracen Value Wrts	38	...
Schroder UK Gwth	496	-5
Tring Intl (118)	129	...
United Carriers (153)	158	...
Waste Recycling (50)	70	-1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Burford n/p (92)	9½	...
Cap & Regional n/p (173)	14	-2
Care UK n/p (4¼)	3½	...
Conrad Ritblat n/p (42)	4	...
Creston Land n/p (15)	2½	...
Firth (GM) n/p (12)	11	...
Haden Maclellan n/p (62)	9	...
Wetherspoon JD n/p (315)	49	-1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

RMC Group	980p (+10p)
Br Bio-Tech	460p (+10p)
Porvair	333p (+16p)
Euro Disney	412½p (+22p)
Ex Co Louis	79p (+13p)
Portals	640p (+11p)
Saatchi	149p (+9p)
N Brown	458p (+10p)
Vendome	428p (+12p)
Micro Focus	968p (+13p)
Britannic	450p (+16p)

FALLS:

Utd Friendly	600p (-10p)
Swire Pacific 'A'	447p (-10½p)
Vodafone	551p (-14p)
Telspec	261p (-12p)
SG Warburg	765p (-19p)
Whitbread	540p (-11p)
Travis Perkins	354p (-13p)
Hutch Whamp	257½p (-12p)
Boots	536p (-11½p)
Ald Leisure	27p (-16p)
Pearson	653p (-17p)
Reed Int	869p (-9p)
Land Sec	694p (-9p)
P&O	679p (-13p)
Kingfisher	589p (-14p)
Sherwood Group	151p (-19p)
Cable Wireless	441p (-11p)

Closing Prices Page 35

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	12,000	Cadbury	924	MEPC	432	Scot Power	1,300
Abbey Natl	1,000	Caradon	608	Marks Spr	2,600	Sears	1,600
Alld-Lyons	1,200	Carlton Cms	858	NFC	5,700	Svrn Trent	735
Anglian W	1,300	Coats Vyla	1,900	NatWst Bk	3,200	Shell Trans	5,400
Argyll Gp	6,700	Cm Union	1,700	Nat Power	1,800	Siebe	1,300
Arjo Wiggn	2,200	Courtaulds	2,800	Nth Wst W	707	SmKl Bch	2,400
AB Foods	731	Enterpr Oil	1,500	Nthrn Fds	1,300	Smith Nph	1,400
BAA	1,200	Forte	2,100	P & O	2,900	Sthrn Elec	662
BAT Inds	3,400	GRE	1,300	Pearson	1,500	Std Chartd	2,400
BOC	516	GUS	1,700	PowerGen	1,600	Sun Allnce	1,100
BP	8,500	Gen Acc	1,300	Prudential	2,700	Tl Gp	3,000
BTR	41,000	Gen Elec	3,400	RMC	812	TSB	4,200
BT	5,900	Glaxo	4,500	RTZ	2,600	Tesco	3,100
Bk of Scot	1,200	Granada	2,700	Rank Org	1,700	Thames W	761
Barclays	12,000	Grand Met	2,000	Reckitt Col	393	Thrn EMI	727
Bass	1,900	Guinness	4,100	Redland	1,500	Tomkins	896
Blue Circle	657	HSBC	5,600	Reed Intl	1,300	Unilever	5,100
Boots	1,400	Hanson	8,000	Rentokil	1,100	Utd Bisc	2,100
Bowater	1,100	ICI	1,000	Reuters	945	Vodafone	1,900
Brit Aero	1,000	Inchcape	2,000	Rolls Royce	6,300	Wrbrg (SG)	617
Brit Airwys	4,500	Kingfisher	2,300	Ryl Ins	1,300	Wellcome	1,700
Brit Gas	7,000	Ladbroke	2,000	Ryl Bk Scot	3,000	Whitbread	1,300
Brit Steel	8,800	Land Secs	1,500	Sainsbury	3,000	Wlms Hld	1,400
Burmah Cstl	99	Legal & Gn	1,100	Schroders	639	Wolseley	394
Cable Wire	3,500	Lloyds Bk	1,700	Scot & New	2,000	Zeneca	1,500

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3867.44 (+2.30)
S&P Composite .... 469.82 (-1.08)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 20469.45 (-122.71)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9132.31 (-380.82)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 418.24 (-6.26)

Sydney: AO .... 2163.5 (-0.9)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2155.61 (-19.45)

FT 30 share: .... 2541.9 (-23.6)

Brussels:
General .... 7707.03 (-1.21)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2221.34 (-26.50)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 697.00 (-9.80)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1624.88 (-15.88)
FT Non Financials .... 1751.66 (-14.89)
FT Gold Mines .... 223.8 (+8.9)
FT Fixed Interest .... 120.14 (-0.82)
FT Govt Secs .... 98.72 (-0.83)
Bargains 33756
SEAQ Volume 609.4m
USM (Datastrm) .... 165.30 (-0.57)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 7	March 18	June 16	June 27

Call options were taken out on 18/3/94: Alliance Resources, Greycoat, Kunick, Lloyds Chemist, Partco Group, Regent Corp, JO Walker.
Puts: Aminex, Greycoat.
Puts & Calls: Forward Tech, Lloyds Chemist, Microvitec, Shandwick.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 94	3233.0	3240.0	3221.0	3235.0	7873
Previous open interest: 68300	Jun 94	3238.0	3245.5	3186.0	3215.0	23405
Three Month Sterling	Jun 94	94.84	94.86	94.80	94.83	26109
Previous open interest: 400566	Sep 94	94.71	94.71	94.61	94.66	23324
	Dec 94	94.47	94.47	94.37	94.41	17816
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 94	95.68	95.68	95.62	95.65	640
Previous open interest: 8740	Sep 94	95.28	95.28	95.26	95.24	134
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 94	94.51	94.52	94.48	94.51	30246
Previous open interest: 885973	Sep 94	94.78	94.78	94.70	94.74	33077
Long Gilt	Mar 94	110-14	110-14	109-18	110-11	301
Previous open interest: 155692	Jun 94	109-20	109-21	108-12	109-11	109870
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 94	110.92	110.93	110.52	110.60	1980
	Sep 94				109.40	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 94	97.29	97.39	96.27	96.60	206413
Previous open interest: 207292	Sep 94	96.15	96.15	96.15	96.35	94
German Gov Bd Bobl	Jun 94	101.01	101.01	100.75	100.85	108
Previous open interest: 2634	Sep 94					0
Three month ECU	Jun 94	94.10	94.10	94.02	94.05	1043
Previous open interest: 28085	Sep 94	94.35	94.35	94.27	94.29	184
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 94	96.11	96.12	96.05	96.08	4134
Previous open interest: 42859	Sep 94	96.18	96.19	96.15	96.17	703
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 94	110.90	111.13	109.75	110.39	70123
Previous open interest: 95873	Sep 94				109.94	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 80.6 (day's range 80.6-80.7).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 18	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8301-2.8412	2.8301-2.8336	par-¹⁄₈ds	par-¼ds
Brussels	51.91-52.09	51.91-52.01	3-7ds	7-15ds
Copenhagen	9.8720-9.8990	9.8820-9.8970	⅝-1⅝ds	1⅞-3⅜ds
Dublin	1.0390-1.0425	1.0392-1.0422	6-9ds	19-25ds
Frankfurt	2.5209-2.5282	2.5232-2.5265	⅛-¼ds	⅜-½ds
Lisbon	259.18-260.48	259.85-260.48	95-110ds	250-311ds
Madrid	206.76-207.46	206.76-207.06	51-58ds	151-165ds
Milan	2490.60-2500.60	2490.60-2494.60	6-7ds	19-21ds
Montreal	2.0361-2.0427	2.0397-2.0427	0.25-0.19pr	0.41-0.31pr
New York	1.4881-1.4914	1.4904-1.4914	0.21-0.20pr	0.50-0.47pr
Oslo	10.9390-10.9610	10.9450-10.9610	⅜-2⅛ds	⅜-⅛pr
Paris	8.5820-8.6150	8.5930-8.6070	⅜-1ds	2⅛-2⅝ds
Stockholm	11.6850-11.7420	11.7100-11.7330	1⅞-2⅛ds	5⅛-6⅜ds
Tokyo	157.85-158.40	158.13-158.40	½-⅜pr	1⅛-1pr
Vienna	17.73-17.83	17.79-17.83	⅛-⅞ds	⅛-2⅛ds
Zurich	2.1379-2.1463	2.1379-2.1410	¼-⅛pr	⅞-⅝pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4865-1.4890
Australia dollar	2.0869-2.0913
Bahrain dinar	0.556-0.568
Brazil cruzeiro*	1189.68-1191.68
Cyprus pound	0.75-0.76
Finland markka	8.1845-8.3005
Greece drachma	365.0-372.0
Hong Kong dollar	11.5000-11.5093
India rupee	46.32-47.28
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4395-0.4495
Malaysia ringgit	4.0466-4.0526
Mexico peso	4.82-4.92
New Zealand dollar	2.5923-2.5987
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5295-5.6555
Singapore dollar	2.3555-2.3586
S Africa rand (fin)	6.7749-6.8197
S Africa rand (com)	5.1276-5.1366
U A E dirham	5.413-5.537

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4025-1.4044
Austria	11.94-11.95
Belgium (Com)	34.95-34.99
Canada	1.369-1.370
Denmark	6.642-6.647
France	5.7808-5.7858
Germany	1.697-1.698
Hong Kong	7.7285-7.7295
Ireland	1.4277-1.4307
Italy	1677.8-1679.3
Japan	106.1-106.2
Malaysia	2.7195-2.7215
Netherlands	1.9078-1.9088
Norway	7.3547-7.3597
Portugal	174.35-174.65
Singapore	1.583-1.584
Spain	139.13-139.23
Sweden	7.8721-7.8821
Switzerland	1.441-1.442

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¼ Finance Hse 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5 Low 4 Week fixed: 5
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 4⅞; 3 mth 4⅞. Sell: 2 mth 4²⁹⁄₃₂; 3 mth: 4¹³⁄₁₆.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	4³¹⁄₃₂-4²⁹⁄₃₂	4²⁹⁄₃₂-4²⁷⁄₃₂	4²⁹⁄₃₂-4²⁷⁄₃₂	4²⁹⁄₃₂-4²⁷⁄₃₂	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5³⁄₁₆	5³⁄₁₆-5⁵⁄₁₆
Interbank:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5³⁄₁₆	5³⁄₁₆-5⁵⁄₁₆

Overnight: open 5, close 4.

Local Authority Deps:	5⅛	n/a	5⅛	5⅛	5¼
Sterling CDs:	5⅛-5¹⁄₁₆	5⅛-5¹⁄₁₆	5⅛-5¹⁄₁₆	5⅛-5³⁄₁₆	5⁵⁄₁₆-5⁵⁄₁₆
Dollar CDs:	3.52	n/a	3.74	4.02	4.52
Building Society CDs:	5³⁄₁₆-5¹⁄₁₆	5¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁄₁₆	5¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁄₁₆	5¹⁄₁₆-5³⁄₁₆	5⁵⁄₁₆-5⁵⁄₁₆

TREASURY BILLS: Applicns: £671m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.80% received: 75%; Last week: £98.80% received: 30%; Avge rate: £4.8056% last wk £4.7881%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2¹⁵⁄₁₆	3⅛-3¹⁄₁₆	3⅜-3⅜	4⅛-3⅞	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	5⅝-5⅝	5⅝-5⁹⁄₁₆	5⁹⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅝-5⅝	6⅛-5⅞
French Franc:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6⅛
Swiss Franc:	4⅛-4	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4	4-3⅞	4⅛-3½
Yen:	2⅛-2	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1¾

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Bankers)

Bullion: Open $385.40-385.90 Close: $386.10-386.60 High: $386.40-386.90
Low: $382.00-382.50 Krugerrand: $385.00-387.50 (£257.75-259.75)
Sovereigns: Old $90.00-92.50 (£60.00-62.00) New $90.00-92.50 (£60.00-62.00)
Platinum: $400.40 (£269.00) Silver: $5.42 (£3.625) Palladium: $133.25 (£89.50)

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyon	600	28	41	49½	10½	29	36
(*615)	650	6	18	28	41	60½	66
Argyll	240	21½	29½	32½	4	14	18½
(*256)	260	8½	18½	22½	12½	25	29
ASDA	50	9½	12½	13½	1	3	4½
(*58)	60	3	6½	7½	5	7	9
Boots	500	42½	53	61	3½	15	20½
(*536)	550	9½	23½	34½	23½	39½	44½
Br Airways	420	19½	32	40½	10½	28	32
(*426½)	460	4	15½	23½	37½	51	56
BP	360	17½	28	35	8½	15	22
(*367½)	390	4½	14	21	26½	33½	38½
Br Steel	140	10½	16½	20½	4	9	12½
(*146)	160	2	7½	11½	16	21	24½
C & W	425	26	43	—	8	22	—
(*440½)	450	13	29	—	21	34½	—
CU	550	39½	56½	61	4½	14	22
(*580½)	600	9	27½	34	27	37	47½
ICI	750	48½	71½	81	8	22½	34½
(*796½)	800	17	42½	53	28½	45½	58½
Kingfishr	550	49	59	68	5	21	29
(*589)	600	17	31½	43	25	45½	54
Land Sec	650	50½	59	63	3½	15	18½
(*693½)	700	13	26	34	18	39	43½
M & S	390	31½	38	45	2½	11	13
(*417)	420	11½	20½	28	12½	24	26
Nat West	460	32	49½	54½	7	16	24½
(*483½)	500	9½	28	35	26½	35	45
Sainsbury	360	33	41½	49	4	16	20½
(*388)	390	13	23½	31½	14½	30	34½
Shell	650	32½	50½	58½	6	15½	25
(*673)	700	6½	24½	31½	32½	41	51
Smkl Bch	390	25	38	49	8½	21½	29½
(*403½)	420	9½	24½	34½	25	37½	45½
Storehse	220	8½	16½	22	7½	17½	18
(*220)	240	2½	8	13½	22½	28½	30½
Trafalgar	106	7½	13	—	6	11½	—
(*106)	115	4	9	—	12½	17½	—
Unilever	1050	22	46½	64½	30½	43	50
(*1057½)	1100	5½	27½	43	71	75	85½
Zeneca	750	29½	51½	64½	18½	33	49½
(*757½)	800	7	29	42½	53	64½	78
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	400	24½	38½	48	13½	24	29
(*468½)	500	8	21	30	38	47	52
Ladbroke	200	15½	24	30	7½	13	19
(*203)	220	6	14½	21	19	24	30½
Utd Bisc	330	22½	31½	39½	9½	16	23
(*340)	360	7	18	26½	29½	34	39½

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	1000	31	55	75	21½	46½	54
(*1004½)	1050	11	32	52	53½	75	82½
Thames W	500	35	45	50½	4½	18½	23
(*529½)	550	7	17	24½	27½	47½	51
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	460	23	32½	44	17	27	34½
(*471½)	500	8	16½	24	47½	53½	60½
BTR	360	32	42½	48	6½	11½	18
(*383½)	390	13	24½	31	17½	25	32
Br Aero	500	40½	59	75½	29	46	60
(*503)	550	23½	37½	54½	66	78	88½
Br Telcm	390	30	38	43	4	13½	18
(*411½)	420	11½	20½	27	17	29	33½
Cadbury	460	22	—	—	13½	—	—
(*499)	542	4	—	—	47	—	—
Guinness	460	33½	45½	54½	11½	23	29½
(*484½)	500	12½	26	35	33½	45½	51½
GEC	300	16	22	26	7½	16	19½
(*304½)	330	5	8	13½	27½	36	38½
Hanson	280	12	17½	22½	9	14	18
(*281½)	300	4	9½	14	21½	26	30
LASMO	120	16½	22	26½	6½	11½	15½
(*129½)	130	10½	17	22	11½	16½	21
Lucas	200	23	30	34	4½	9½	15
(*218½)	220	9½	18	23½	13	18½	25
Pilkingtn	180	21	26½	30½	4	9	11½
(*195)	200	8	15	19½	12½	18½	21
Prudential	300	32	36	41	4½	9	14½
(*329½)	330	12	19	25	18½	24	29
Redland	550	34	46½	58	20½	29	42½
(*574)	600	9½	24	36	54	59½	71½
Royal Ins	260	24½	34	40	8	13	19
(*275)	280	13	23½	30	18	23	29½
Tesco	200	23	27½	32	5	9	13
(*219)	220	9	16½	22	14	18½	23
Vodafone	550	28	47	61½	25½	38½	50½
(*550½)	600	9	26	41½	59	70	80
Williams	360	35	40	46	6	12	17½
(*389½)	390	14	23	30½	19	25½	32

FT-SE INDEX (*3216½)

	3100	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350
Calls						
Mar	—	—	35½	½	—	—
Apr	136	103	69	46	27	16
May	165	130	103	77	57	41
Jun	183	151	122	96	76	58
Dec	273	—	211	—	163	—
Puts						
Mar	—	—	1	18	66	120
Apr	28	42	63	90	121	161
May	52	67	89	113	143	177
Jun	69	87	108	131	160	192
Dec	142	—	176	—	227	—

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	460	27	40½	52½	1	11½	19
(*484½)	500	2	18	31	19	30	38
Amstrad	35	4½	6½	8½	1	3	4
(*38½)	40	1	4	6	3½	5½	7
Barclays	550	9½	32	47½	7	26	39
(*551)	600	1	13½	27½	51½	58	69
Blue Circ	330	22½	29½	40½	1½	13	21
(*349½)	360	2½	14½	26	13½	29½	37
Br Gas	300	6	15½	—	3	15½	20½
(*304)	330	1	4½	9½	28	37	39½
Dixons	200	13½	22½	27½	1½	8½	16
(*211)	220	3	12½	18	12	18½	27
Forte	240	21½	25½	32	1	8½	13½
(*259½)	260	4½	13½	21½	5	18	23½
Hillsdwn	160	14½	17½	23½	1	7½	10½
(*172½)	180	2	6½	12	10	20½	22½
Lonrho	140	14½	23	28½	1	7½	13½
(*153)	160	2	12½	19½	9	17½	24
Sears	110	11	13	16½	1	3½	5½
(*119½)	120	2½	6½	9½	2½	7½	10½
Thrn Emi	1100	27	67	90	5	32	60½
(*1120½)	1150	5½	43	64	36	58	88½
Tomkins	240	14	23	28½	1½	8	14
(*252)	260	2	12	18	10½	18	25
TSB	220	14	23	29½	1	7	13½
(*232)	240	2	12	19	9½	16½	24
Wellcome	600	31½	54½	77	4	28	42
(*626)	650	3½	31	53	29	56½	68
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	49	79½	89	11	28½	47
(*684)	700	21	49½	63½	33½	52½	72½
HSBC	750	61½	95½	113	21	49	66
(*784)	800	33½	71	89	44	75	91
Reuter	2000	66½	141	180½	50½	101½	128½
(*2009½)	2050	42	115½	154½	77	126	152½
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
R-Royce	150	13	20	24½	7½	13	17½
(*158½)	200	5	11	16	19½	24½	29
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	130	9½	14	21½	3	11	16
(*133)	140	1½	9½	18	10½	17	22
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastn Elc	600	44	57	64½	9	25	32½
(*630)	650	16½	30½	39	33½	52	58½
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	14	30	39½	3	23½	28½
(*470)	500	1	13	22½	32	40½	51
Scot Pwr	360	28½	38½	46	1	7½	15
(*386½)	390	5	20	29	8	18½	29

March 18, 1994 Tot: 33233 Call: 15393 Put: 17840 FT-SE Call: 8155 Put: 10703
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

COMMODITIES REPORT: Aluminium was noticeably firmer, as copper took a back seat, and primary metal rose to its highest levels for nearly twenty months, while alloy nearly lost its discount to primary while notching up new contract highs. Nickel prices bounced during late trade on general buying, paying little heed to ever rising stocks.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	945-940	May	1020-1018
May	954-953	Jul	1030-1026
Jul	966-965	Sep	1038-1037
Sep	978-977	Dec	1062-1057
Dec	993-992		
Mar	1008-1007	Volume:	5509

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1327-1320	Nov	1328-1327
May	1332-1331	Jan	1327-1323
Jul	1333-1332	Mar	1320-1313
Sep	1330-1328	Volume:	5094

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Jan	11.60-12.35
Spot: 294.00		Mar	11.35-12.50
May	12.15-12.25	May	11.15-12.65
Jul	12.50-12.75	Jul	10.95-12.95
Sep	11.85-12.20	Volume:	121

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	307.0-06.1
Spot: 341.0		Mar	306.0-05.1
May	337.4-36.0	May	307.9-05.5
Aug	332.0-31.1	Aug	311.8-09.1
Oct	311.0-10.6	Volume:	1952

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 18

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	72.47	139.92	129.82
(+/-)	-10.33	+14.21	+2.91
Eng/Wales:	72.47	138.31	129.75
(+/-)	-10.33	+13.41	+2.75
(%)	-7.3	-14.1	-8.2
Scotland:	n/a	144.61	130.72
(+/-)	n/a	+16.03	+4.63
(%)	n/a	-3.8	-42.0

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	—	Mar	unq	—
Sep	unq	—		Volume:	0

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	105.50
May	106.60
Jun	107.15
Sep	93.10
Nov	95.90
Volume:	165

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	104.65
May	105.25
Sep	93.90
Nov	95.70
Jan	97.50
Volume:	0

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
Volume:	0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	182.0	182.5
May	200.0	202.5
Apr	129.5	125.8
	Volume:	83

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Apr 69.75-70.25

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Buyers of prompt North Sea crudes chased offers. Outer months looked softer ahead of the Opec meeting.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.35	n/c
Brent 15 day (Apr)	14.05	-0.05
Brent 15 day (May)	13.60	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	14.75	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (May)	14.75	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	151 (+1)	154 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	136 (-2)	138 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	139 (-1)	141 (-1)
Non EEC 1H May	138 (-1)	140 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	75 (-1)	77 (-1)
Naphtha	132 (-2)	134 (-1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd
GAS OIL

Apr	n/a	Jul	138.50-38.75
May	137.00-37.25	Aug	140.50-40.75
Jun	137.00-37.25	Sep	142.50-43.00
		Vol:	7398

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	13.62-13.63	Aug	13.72-13.75
Jun	13.55-13.56	Sep	13.85 BID
Jul	13.66 SLR	Vol:	21719

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Apr	n/a	Jul	n/a
May	—	Aug	—
Jun	—	Vol:	0

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 94	1275	1252	1275
May 94	1270	1252	1268
Jul 94	1154	1145	1154
Oct 94	1284	1270	1284

Vol: 460 lots. Open int'st: 2735 Index 1146 +8

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3 mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1946.0-1947.0	1959.0-1960.0	2369100
Lead ($/tonne)	463.00-464.00	477.50-478.00	101050
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	945.00-945.50	965.00-965.50	386050
Tin ($/tonne)	5500.0-5505.0	5545.0-5550.0	23175
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1324.5-1325.0	1346.0-1346.5	1812275
Nickel ($/tonne)	5660.0-5661.0	5720.0-5725.0	85650



BOOT TAX 30

Tax-free fundraising for charity

WEEKEND MONEY

WINDOW PAIN 33

A 'good' deal which turned sour



High speed banks know your balance

Tempted to play the clearing cycle game by calculating cheque speeds? Beware — new electronics are ahead of you, says **Liz Dolan**

The burgeoning of electronic gadgetry in high street banks is proving a bugbear rather than a boon to customers caught in the banks' protracted clearing cycle.

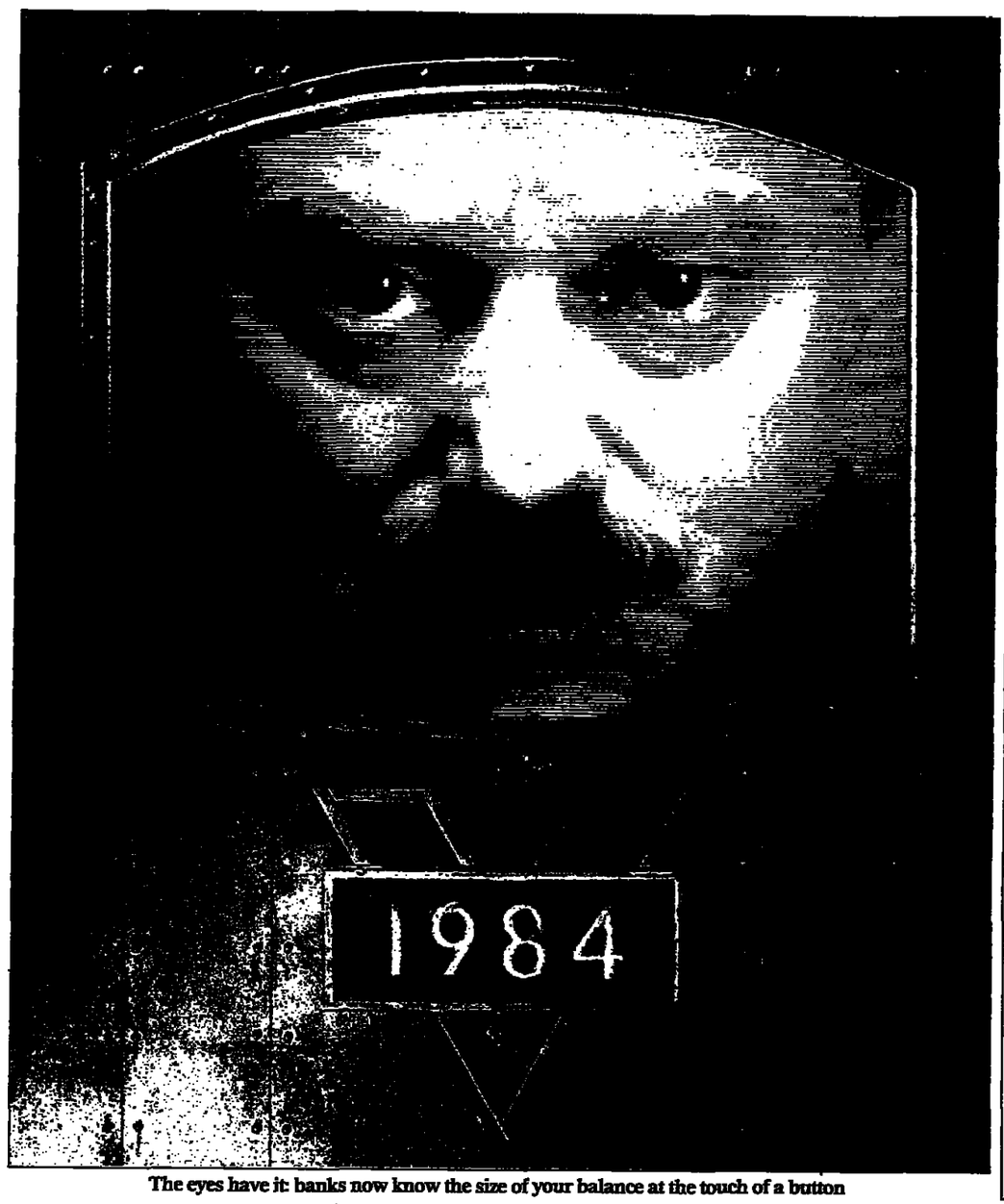
As has been well documented, cheques can still take up to eight days to clear. In the past, any customers waiting for a vital cheque to limp its way through to their account could cash a cheque in a branch other than their own a day or two before the funds were due to clear. Timed correctly, and provided that the original uncleared cheque was from a reliable source, there was little danger of the account holder's own cheque being debited before the original payment had been credited.

However, the rapid growth in the number of electronic big brothers on bank counters means that the true state of a customer's balance can be discovered at the touch of a button, even by staff operating several hundred miles from customers' home branches. Rosie Floyd, a Barclays customer, was refused payment recently when trying to cash a cheque against uncleared funds. The counter clerk was sympathetic, but explained that his knowledge of the state of her account prevented him from handing over the cash. In this case, the story had a happy, if slightly bizarre, ending. Ms Floyd's cheque was passed to "my mate on the bureau de change". It was explained that payment was then possible because "my mate" had no direct access to customers' balances.

Ms Floyd says: "The whole thing was ridiculous. I wanted £50 cash. The uncleared cheque was for £3,000 and had been paid in nearly a week earlier. It was from a regular client, a huge multinational, and I knew it wouldn't bounce." She is self-employed and cannot rely on a regular salary cheque. Payments arrive sporadically and are often sorely needed. Because she does not live near her branch, she faces a seven-day wait before being able to touch the money. Barclays agrees that customers in this situation "really are a bit hamstrung".

A spokesman said: "We know many customers like to play the clearing cycle. This system makes it more difficult, but there are advantages as well, you know." The centralised system combats fraud more effectively, and also allows cash deposits to be credited to customers' accounts immediately. About 1,000 of the bank's 2,100 branches have counter screens. The rest will be on-line by July.

Barclays is the last of the big four banks to give staff access to customers' accounts in this fashion. But NatWest said: "We don't check balances automatically. If we've issued customers with a cheque card, it means we consider them creditworthy. The Midland says its staff always check balances when asked to cash a cheque, "though we would normally be able to agree an overdraft extension there and then if necessary".



The eyes have it: banks now know the size of your balance at the touch of a button

How a Midland cheque made out to a Barclays accountholder passes through the banks' clearance system:
Monday: The cheque is paid into a branch of Barclays. It is processed and the amount encoded in magnetic characters at the bottom of the cheque. In some banks, this is done at a district processing centre. The cheque is sent to the bank's own clearing centre in London.
Tuesday: High-speed reader sorters group the cheques into batches, according to the bank on which they have been drawn. The cheque will then be taken to the Clearing Exchange Centre for collection by the Midland. Using its own reader sorter, the Midland confirms the cheque's value and delivers it to the relevant branch.
Wednesday: In this instance, the branch bounces the cheque: it is mailed first-class to the branch of the person who wrote the cheque.
Thursday: The account-holding branch learns that the cheque has been bounced. Unless the cheque was initially paid into the customer's own branch, Barclays will not allow customers to withdraw funds until the fifth day (or seventh if a weekend intervenes). Other banks allow them to do so on the fourth day. Barclays needs the extra day because it reports clearance to the branch that received the cheque rather than to the account-holding branch. This is due to change later this year.

Beat bankers at the check-out

Supermarkets have become cashpoints as well as food stores for many customers. All the main supermarket chains offer "cashback" to use up surplus cash, and customers are saved a trip to the bank. Everyone is happy. Or are they?

Some stores appear to be taking their role as "bankers" alarmingly seriously.

When buying a few items at her local Safeway, Angela Baldock asked the checkout assistant for a £50 cashback on her Barclays Connect card. She warned that the request may be refused because she was nearing the top of her overdraft limit. She was hoping that a cheque, paid in a few days earlier, had cleared. The supermarket's electronic checking system discovered that it had not and was therefore unable to authorise the release of funds from the account. Ms Baldock offered to pay the £12.85 shopping bill with a cheque, using her Connect card to guarantee payment. The assistant said she could not accept the cheque because the cashback request had been turned down.

Safeway said: "The banks advise us on policy, although obviously we have the final say. We do not allow the same card to be used twice in this way. Cheque cards don't give a 100 per cent watertight guarantee any more and it's not in our interests to take the risk." The group said it had asked the banks for clarification about cheque cards, but none had been forthcoming.

Sainsbury and Tesco appear to take a more relaxed view. Both said that, in the circumstances described by Ms Baldock, they would still have accepted payment for the goods up to the limit on the cheque card. Sainsbury said it could not see why the card could no longer be seen as a guarantee of payment.

Barclays said: "A cheque guarantee card does not protect against fraudulent use. We have no obligation to pay on a stolen cheque although, in two thirds of cases, we still do." The cheque would be honoured if, say, the signature on it bore a reasonable likeness to that on the card, "but not if it was signed by Mickey Mouse — unless, of course, it was Mickey Mouse's account".

As well as being able to withdraw cash directly from their bank accounts at a supermarket checkout, customers may also request that the value of returned goods be recredited to the account.

- About 1,300 of the country's 18,500 cashpoint machines are in places other than banks or building societies.
- Sainsbury installed its first hole-in-the-wall cash machine in May 1983.
- Sainsbury and Waitrose were the first supermarket chains to accept Switch. Sainsbury has done so since November 1987.
- Tesco was first to accept Visa, in November 1989. It set up a Switch system at the same time.
- Sainsbury initially refused Visa because it meant accepting credit as well as debit cards, but capitulated in December 1991.
- Safeway has offered cashback on both Switch and Visa since July 1992.
- Asda has been offering cashback on both cards for three or four years.

Weekend Money is edited this week by Sara McConnell

Regulation with dodgy face?



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
Deputy Business Editor

Why is the newly-formed Personal Investment Authority (PIA) content to have a former insurance executive representing the "public interest" on its board, particularly when his old firm, Legal & General, stands convicted of misconduct by the existing regulator?

The man in question is Joe Palmer, chairman of the Personal Investment Authority and former chief executive of L&G. It was he who presided over the setting up of a clearly inadequate compliance system at L&G. Last month the company paid out £400,000 in fines and costs for these errors. There is no suggestion that customers were being defrauded or that anyone had to be compensated.

But to call Mr Palmer a "public interest" representative seems to stretch the term's meaning to breaking point. Clearly members of parliament think so. This week the Treasury Select Committee questioned Mr Palmer's suitability as chairman of the PIA, which takes over the regulation of insurance and other investment companies in the summer.

Another MP, Dale Campbell-Savours, has attacked the appointment as "extraordinary" in a Commons motion and he questions Mr Palmer's blemished record of complying with City rules. Investors can only agree.

Regulators seem to take the view that Mr P is chastened by the mistakes during his seven years as chief executive at L&G and has learnt from the experience. Is this the old poacher turned gamekeeper argument, which in the real world does not really convince? During Mr Palmer's time at L&G, the Financial Services Act was implemented. The suspicion is that few life insurance companies paid heed to its requirements then. It was the law but selling policies and increasing the distribution network in competitive times were perhaps more important. Finding an industry leader of the period who was totally beyond reproach might be difficult, is the suggestion.

And why should it be the industry which has a Mr Clean to represent the public interest on the board? After all, was not the decision made that public-interest members should outnumber the industry on the PIA board? Cannot the public at large outside the investment industry produce ten fine upstanding men and women to help regulate unit trusts, endowments and pensions?

A battle over whether the board should have a majority of "public interest" members is still being fought behind the scenes. Jim Stretton of Standard Life resigned from the board because he was so cross that the industry was going to be outnumbered.

Pension hopes

Far more important for the PIA's credibility as a regulator is that it and its senior regulator, the Securities and Investments Board, should sort out the true definition of public interest and serve it.

When the Goode report on pensions was published last year many members of occupational schemes and those in the industry felt that its many recommendations did not go far enough to ensure that scheme members would be protected.

At the time, there was hope that the Commons Social Security Committee on pensions, set up after the Robert Maxwell affair, might go further in the right direction. Unfortunately, the slender volume produced this week still falls far short. It recommends that trustees should have a couple of days' training before taking up their posts, unless they are trustees of small schemes. Then there will be no need. The fact is that small schemes are more likely to be subject to abuse by employers borrowing to tide over their companies.

The report rightly suggests that pensioners should be represented among the trustees. The complaint is often made that employers and employees get a say but those who are retired have no influence on the level of benefits.

The anger at the time that Robert Maxwell's plundering of the pension schemes was discovered seems to have dissipated. By the time legislation is enacted it is likely to have disappeared.

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ADRIAN BROOKS

Car boot sales can escape tax if the profits go to charity

How to keep the taxman out of your car boot

A top rank royal attends a charity film premiere; a school holds a car boot sale to raise funds for new sports equipment; a ballet school donates the proceeds of its monthly show to a charity for disabled children. Who pays tax on their profits? (See answers at end of story).

Under the Taxes Act, anybody who makes a profit from an event is carrying on a trade and should by rights pay corporation tax, however worthy the cause that receives the money. But soft-hearted Inland Revenue inspectors turn a blind eye to small-scale events that are held to raise money for charity. An official concession allows events arranged for charity to avoid paying tax if they meet all of four conditions:

☐ The organisation does not regularly carry on the activity.

☐ The trading is not in competition with other traders.

☐ The profits are used for charitable purposes.

☐ The activity is supported mainly because the public knows that it is for charity.

Any popular fund-raising event can avoid tax: bazaars, gymkhanas, carnivals, firework displays, fetes, concerts, dinner-dances and sports matches. Auctions and jumble sales which sell goods that have been donated free are not normally treated as trading activities so even without the concession have no tax to pay. Similarly, sponsored walks are not trading activities.

At car boot sales, the organisers usually charge a pitch fee to stallholders who want to sell their own goods. These too can avoid tax, as long as the four conditions are met. Boot sales purely for profit must pay tax although they can deduct expenses such as advertising.

All the money made during charity events is tax-free including profits from selling refreshments, raffle tickets, programmes and advertising space as long as these are not separate profit-making activities. The key to ensuring that your effort stays tax-free is: keep it small. You can pay a commercial organiser and book a celebrity to cut the tape and, provided it is done on a modest scale, you should be safe.

> The key to ensuring your fundraising effort stays tax-free is: keep it small

It must not be a regular event. A gymkhana held four times a year could run into trouble but the pony club could hold three gymkhanas and three dinner-dances for charity and avoid tax.

☐ *The three examples above will probably all pay tax. The royal premiere is a commercial event; the car boot sale was not for charitable purposes; the ballet show is a regular occasion.*

MARGARET DIBBEN

The Inland Revenue has just re-issued its guidance on fund-raising for charity and the new version supersedes any advice given previously. Copies of the leaflet and information are available from: Inland Revenue, Claims (Trusts and Charities), St John's House, Merton Road, Bootle, Merseyside L69 9BB. Charities in Scotland should contact: Inland Revenue, Claims (Scotland), Trinity Park House, South Trinity Road, Edinburgh EH5 3SD.

You can phone for copies of the booklet on 051-472 6000 extension 7016 or in Scotland 031-551 8127. Charities can also phone a dedicated help-line for advice: 051-472 6044 or in Scotland 031-551 8294.

If you fail to win the concession for your event, you have to pay tax on the profits. But the donation to charity can remain free of tax by using a deed of covenant or Gift Aid.

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Sara McConnell explains the pros and cons of direct debits

Direct route to bills

THE spring offensive to persuade more people to pay their bills by direct debit has begun. On the back of a national television advertising campaign claiming "There ain't no IOUs when you pay DD", households receiving large winter fuel bills and council tax bills, as well as demands for annual motor and household insurance premiums, are being reminded they can spread the cost this way.

Companies openly admit the more people they get to pay by direct debit, the more it eases their own cash flow. But customers can also use direct debit to their advantage, as free or cheap credit. Most local councils will not charge extra if people set up a direct debit and pay in 12 instalments instead of one payment. Many clubs and societies will let members pay in instalments by direct debit. Some, like the National Trust and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, even offer incentives. Using direct debits as credits will also work with some insurance companies, who allow customers to spread premiums. Annual fees and premiums payable upfront are most likely to carry a charge, on the ground that it is free credit.

Here are answers to some questions people may be asking:

Q What is a direct debit?

A It is a way of arranging for your bank or building society to pay bills as they fall due or by instalments. When you fill in a direct debit instruction, you authorise a supplier, for example your gas company, to take the money from your account. You are also giving it permission to vary the amounts it takes.

Q Is this the same as a standing order?

A No. A standing order works the other way round. You authorise the bank to pay over a set sum of money on a specific date or dates to someone else. The bank cannot vary that sum without your written permission.

Q Am I am giving a company permission to dip into my bank account and take whatever it wants?

A This worries many people. One of direct debit's advantages is that you don't have to write to the bank every time a payment amount changes. There are safeguards if mistakes happen.

Q What safeguards?

A Suppliers (utilities, mortgage lenders, and so on) can only take the amount agreed with the customer, on the date agreed. If it changes, the supplier must tell the customer in advance. It is up to the customer to query or cancel the direct debit, in writing, otherwise the company will take the new amount. Companies only have to give customers "reasonable" notice but most stick to a code requiring them to give 14 days.

Q What if I cancel a direct debit and the bank pays it? Will I get my money back?

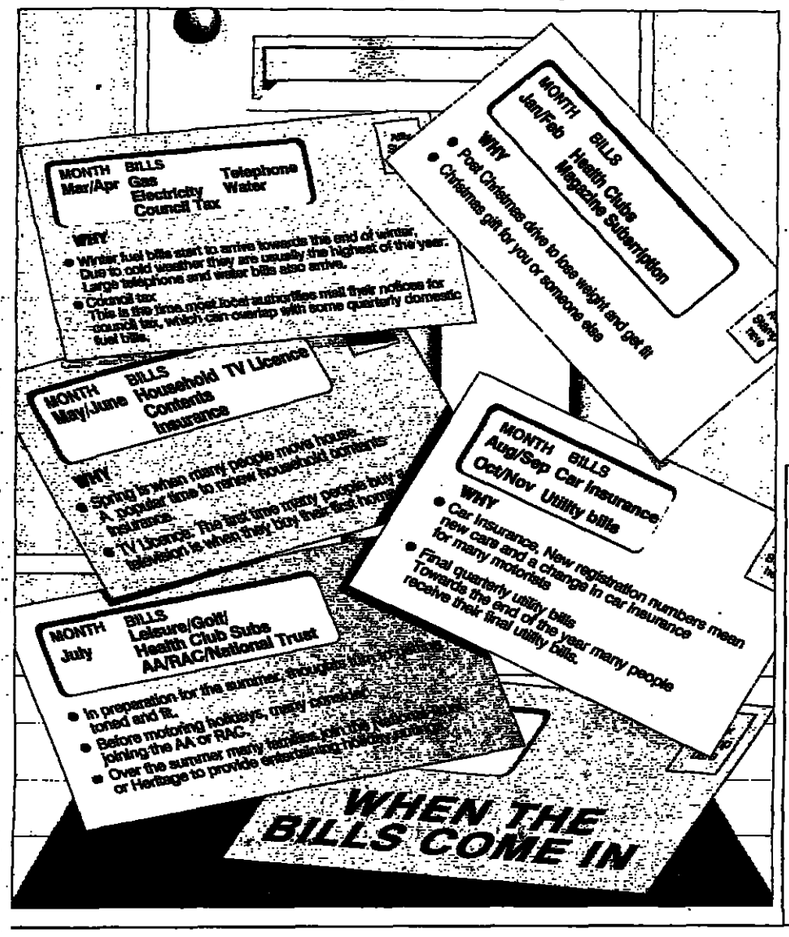
A Yes. Banks must give you an immediate refund if they allow a supplier to take money from your account wrongly. They also have to refund you if the supplier takes too much or before the agreed withdrawal date.

Q I've just changed bank accounts and moved my direct debits. My lender took so long setting up the direct debit on the new account it took no payment the first month and then two payments, making me overdrawn. Can it do this?

A Only if the two amounts are taken out after the second date agreed. For example, if it was meant to take the money on February 1 and March 1, it would have to take both amounts after March 1.

Q Can I cancel a direct debit whenever I want?

A Yes. Just write to your bank. It is up to the bank to tell the supplier, although you can too, to be safe. If the bank says it is up to you to tell the supplier, it is wrong. But you should check your bank statement to ensure your instructions have been obeyed.



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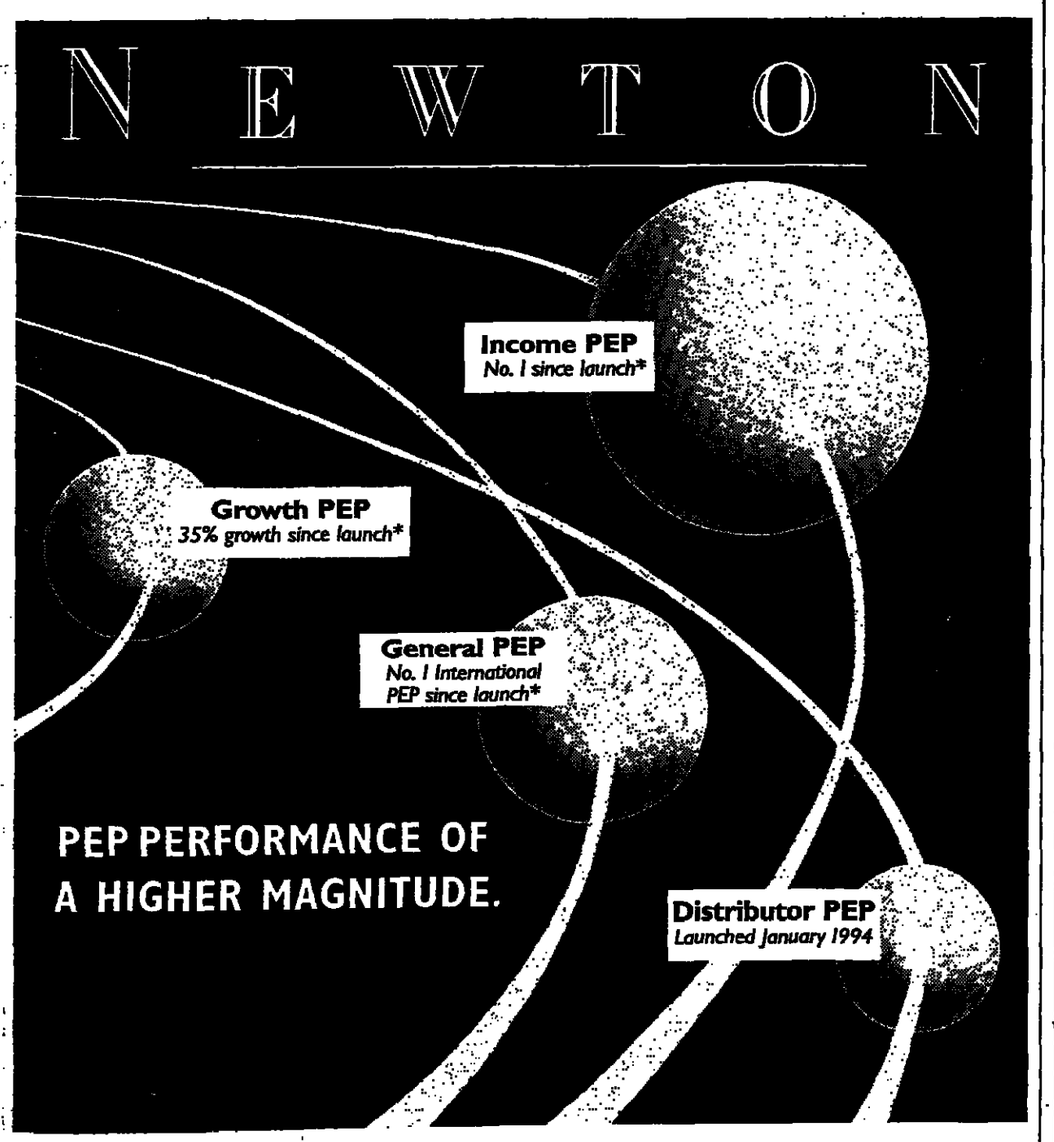
*Based on offer to bid prices, with income re-invested. Source: Micropal 1.3.91 – 14.2.94. The Woolwich Stockmarket Fund grew 61.88%. †Based on offer to bid prices, with income re-invested. Source: Micropal annualised growth 1.3.91 – 14.2.94. The Woolwich Stockmarket Fund grew 17.66%.

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2043-94

Robert Miller outlines the new stock market settlement system

Buy now, pay sooner

Investors who buy and sell shares could face higher dealing charges after the introduction of the Stock Exchange's ten-day rolling settlement system on July 18.

This week the Stock Exchange, backed by private client stockbrokers, launched a campaign to explain the new system which will shorten the present 14-day account period between buying shares and paying for them to 10 days. Eventually, this could become three days although investors will still be able to negotiate longer periods with brokers.

Under the present Stock Exchange system, investors can sometimes delay paying for shares they have bought by up to three weeks until specific dates, known as "settlement dates" for paying up. The proposed ten-day rolling settlement system will impose a tighter discipline. From July 18 every business day will be a settlement day.

The shorter time periods for settlement could force many banks, building societies and brokers which currently offer low-cost sharedealing services to re-think their strategy. David Jones, chief executive of Sharelink, the UK's largest execution-only sharedealing business, says: "Some of them are going to have to consider whether they really want to be in the business of managing and administering hundreds of millions of pounds worth of shares."

There is no reason why rolling settlement in itself should lead to higher dealing charges. But many of the cheapest dealing services operate by post and this will gradually become more and more impractical as turnaround times shorten.

In order to cover themselves, an increasing number of sharedealing services will insist on investors using nominee accounts. Fidelity Brokerage, for example, already insists on this.

The accounts ensure that the broker already holds sufficient cleared funds to cover share deals. Fred Carr, chief executive of broker Carr Sheppards, said: "Some firms could be out of a lot of money. They will have to cover that with their own funds or the regulators could fine them very heavily. A number of brokers will insist on clients maintaining sufficient funds in a deposit or nominee account with their broker."

It is this development of nominee accounts where additional charges are most likely to occur.

Justin Urquhart Stewart, a director of Barclays Stockbrokers, said: "They should be linked to interest paying deposit accounts. Many investors prefer to use them because they take a lot of the administrative burden away."

But shares will be held in the name of the broker rather than the investor, Mr Urquhart Stewart added. Investors who want copies of annual reports or who want to go to annual meetings will have to arrange this through their broker. This will cost money.

Alternatively, the broker might offer to lend money to cover the transactions and secure the loan against the porfolio. This is "margin trading", a high risk strategy. Many investors who came unstuck in the Wall Street Crash of 1929 did so because they traded on margin.

● *Copies of The Stock Exchange's Rolling Settlement guide available free on 071-797 1212.*

HOW ROLLING SETTLEMENT WORKS

Day One: Instruct your broker to buy or sell shares or gilts. Dealings in gilts are conducted on a next-day cash settlement basis.

Day Two: You should receive — post permitting — a contract note confirming the trade and the dealing charges. If you are selling shares, you will also receive a transfer form.

Day Three/Four: If you have sold shares, you must sign and return the transfer form with the share certificate as proof of ownership.

Day Five: If you have bought shares, you should send a cheque to your broker leaving enough time for it to clear. Some brokers may charge persistent late-payers interest.

Day Ten: If you have sold shares, your broker should send a cheque to you. If you have bought shares, the certificate should arrive some time after this.



KOBAL COLLECTION

At the margin: angry investors protesting in 1929

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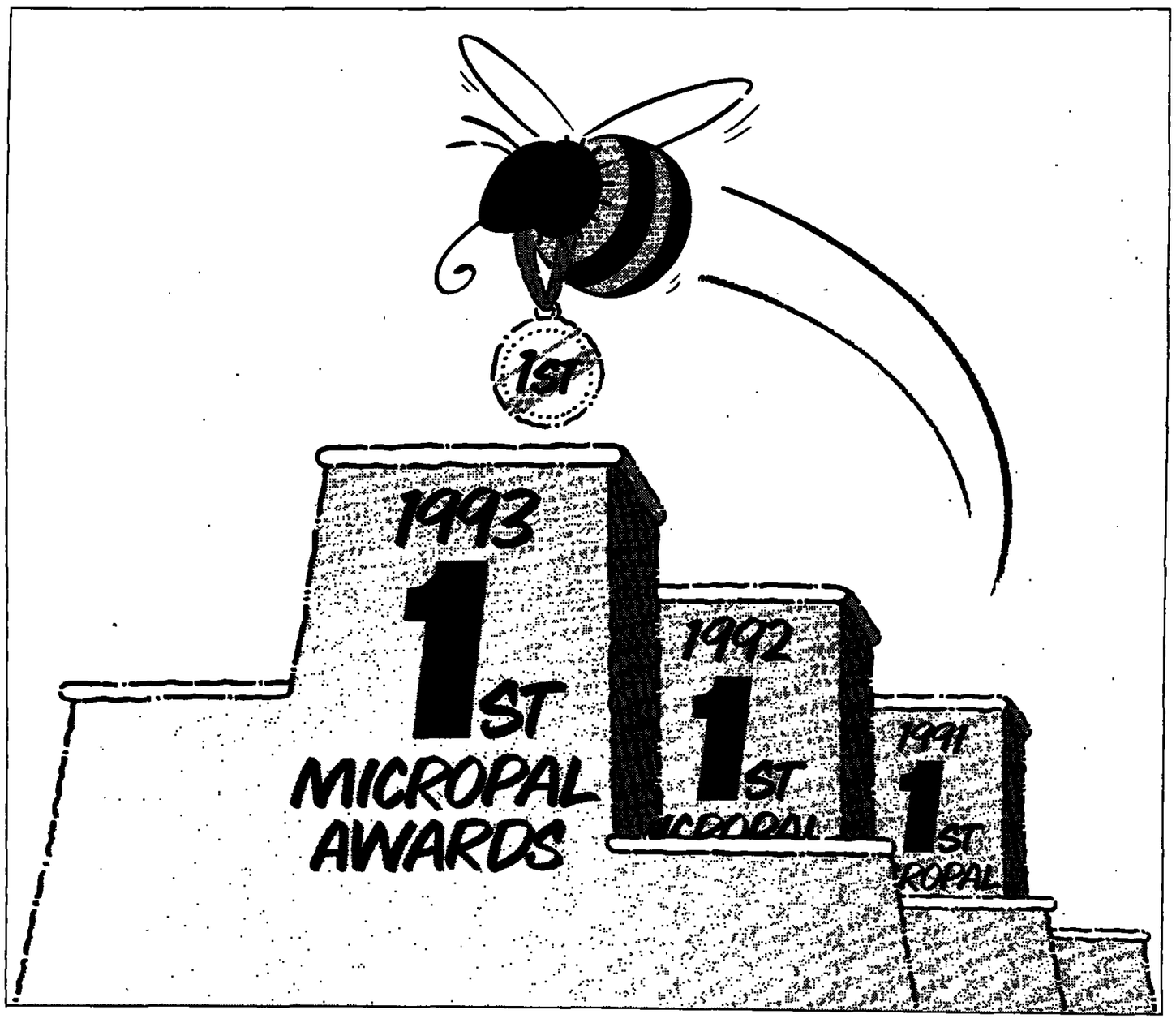
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Inheritance tax and £3,000 gifts

A report, "Ten ways to get your own back on the taxman", which appeared in Weekend Money on March 12, incorrectly stated that an individual making a gift of £3,000 a year might be liable for inheritance tax unless the donor subsequently lived for seven years.

In fact, gifts of up to £3,000 are exempt from inheritance tax. We apologise for the error.

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2438P2I

'Money-back' misery

Liz Dolan and Paulette Holt give a warning on money-back offers



Double losers Kathleen Turner and Kevin Fox who lost their deposits for windows

The National Consumer Council has warned householders to be wary of seemingly impossible "money-back" home improvement offers, apparently backed by guarantees from independent consumers' organisations. The warning was prompted by the recent collapse of Guardian Windows of Fareham, Hampshire, which left an estimated 6,000 customers out of pocket to the tune of several thousand pounds.

The collapse of the double glazing firm in January left Kath Turner and her brother Kevin Fox facing the probable loss of more than £9,000 in upfront payments. Mrs Turner said she consented to pay the money before the work was carried out because the salesman said an organisation called the Householders Association would guarantee the safety of her funds. She said he showed her a brochure in which HA claimed only to deal with reputable companies. She checked the credentials of both HA and Guardian with her local trading standards department and was also shown round a house in which windows had already been installed and the money returned to the owners.

The Guardian offer involved the staged refunding of payments in exchange for the client's agreement to promotional activities such as showing prospective customers round their home, and allowing boards to be posted outside. The final tranche would be repaid if a new customer was introduced. Mrs Turner expected a complete refund as she had introduced her brother.

The HA says it never guaranteed promotional deals such as Guardian's, but several other Guardian customers claim that HA had reassured them by telephone that their money was safe. The National Consumer Council has documentary proof that the "promotional deals" exclusion had only recently been inserted into the terms of its guarantee.

Robert Henshaw, managing director, said yesterday that the only guarantee HA ever gave was to complete the installation for the difference between the deposit paid and the full cost of the contract if Guardian failed to complete the work.

Two estimates for the full cost of the work, obtained from local builders, roughly equated to the £6,495 Mrs Turner paid Guardian. She agrees that Guardian described the payment as a "deposit", but saw that as a technicality as she was expecting the money back anyway.

Michael Radford, Guardian's liquidator, said at a creditors' meeting last month: "It was a disgraceful way to run a company. I am not convinced you will see one bean of your money again."

Jonothan Woodbridge, a Dorking accountant hired as adviser to HA appears similarly unimpressed. In a private letter to HA, subsequently obtained by *The Daily Echo*, of Southampton, he said: "If Guardian is a reasonable sample of how you operate, I would think it appropriate for your staff to become expert in the conduct of insolvency meetings ... ongoing review/monitoring of the financial position for the accredited company seems non-existent, or at least not sufficient to highlight what was going on."

Guarantee checklist

THE National Consumer Council says people must be wary of financial guarantees of the type Guardian's customers believe they were given. It advises people offered similar deals to be "very very cautious" before parting with money or signing documents. They should:

☐ Check out the insurance arrangements underpinning any financial guarantee, "no matter how professional they appear, no matter how slick the promotional material".

☐ Discover everything possible, even if it means going to the insurance company itself.

☐ Check with local trading standards officers whether they have received complaints about the organisation, and perhaps go directly to the Office of Fair Trading.

☐ Ask the DTI's insurance division whether it is a licensed insurance broker.

INTEREST RATES ROUNDUP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.36	0.36	0.30	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	3.18	3.18	2.55	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3.14	3.14	2.51	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	2.57	2.57	2.08	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	2.81	2.81	2.25	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	3.19	3.19	2.55	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 528655
" " "	3.29	3.29	2.63	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 528655
NatWest	3.28	3.28	2.63	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	3.28	3.28	2.63	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	2.68	2.93	2.34	2,500‡	none	031-442 77 7
Barclays Prime a/c	1.70	1.70	1.35	2,500‡	none	0604 252991
Co-operative Ultra	0.19	0.19	0.15	500‡	none	071 626 6543
Citibank	3.55	3.62	2.90	2,000‡	none	0800 555384
Lloyds HICA	0.36	0.36	0.30	500‡	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	1.12	1.12	0.90	2,000‡	none	0742 528655
Abbey National HICA	1.19	1.19	0.93	1,000‡	none	Local Branch
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	1.13	1.13	0.90	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank Inst Chque Acct	1.50	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	071-600 6020
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	0.75	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
B						
Britannia	4.73	4.73	3.78	10,000 min	Postal	——
Britannia	4.88	4.88	3.90	25,000 min	Postal	——
Birmingham Midshires	4.73	4.73	3.78	50,000 min	30 day	——
Asset (Bristol&West)	5.38	5.38	4.29	25,000 min	90 day	——
Alliance & Leics	5.48	5.48	4.38	60,000 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
Birmingham Midshires	5.25	5.25	4.20	100,000 min	Postal	——
North of England	5.02	5.02	4.02	25,000 min	30 day	——
North of England	5.25	5.25	4.20	25,000 min	60 day	——
The Scarborough	5.51	5.51	4.41	25,000 min	90 day	——
Alliance & Leics	5.29	5.29	4.23	30,000 min	1 year	——
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NATIONAL SAVINGS						
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Investment A/c*	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-4,99	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3 mth	0253 766151
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TIMES 3.94

Caught out by interest-rate cap

From Mr I. P. Laurenson

Sir, Like R. J. Eslea (Weekend Money, March 12), I also wanted to invest in a National Savings product with a fixed interest return over five years, but in my case it would be a Capital Bond. I thought I would like to gain from any rise in interest rates during the five-year term, without having to cash in my Capital Bond, so I asked my clearing bank what the cost would be of buying an interest-rate cap. This is a financial product, which will pay out in the event that interest rates rise during an agreed period, in return for a one-off premium.

Imagine my surprise to be told interest-rate caps are sold by my bank, but only when a loan is involved. I am not happy at being discriminated against in this fashion and wonder if any of your readers can suggest an alternative.

Yours faithfully,
I. P. LAURENSON,
7 Homesdale Road,
Petts Wood,
Orpington, Kent.

Safety in numbers

From Mr Ralph A. Raphael

Sir, Your collection of "Questions & Answers" (February 26) is certainly useful. I have a query on the item relating to building society compensation. Would two distinct accounts (for example, the London Share and Gold Account of the Cheltenham & Gloucester) qualify for two £18,000 compensations in case of disaster? If the answer is "no", it would appear the only really safe option would be to invest in a number of building societies with each sum being below the £18,000 level.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH A. RAPHAEL,
4 Ivy Field, Barton,
Cambridge.

The Building Societies Association replies: If you have two accounts at the same society, you would only qualify for one payout of £18,000.

Hidden charge

From R. A. Moore

Sir, Re: Banks' safe custody fees (Weekend Money, March 5). I took out a mortgage for 10 years in 1984 with Abbey National Building Society. I have recently redeemed the mortgage and was surprised to be charged "Deeds handling charge £50". There was no mention of this in 1984.

Abbey National was a building society when I entered the mortgage but a bank when I redeemed it, but does this give it the right to "move the goal posts half way through the game?"

Yours faithfully,
R. A. MOORE,
56 Downs Way,
Tadworth, Surrey.

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Date of Birth _____

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THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

412/TIMES

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8808				
Balanced	459.50	486.30	+ 2.50	...
UK Equity	583.50	617.50	+ 3.80	...
Property	449.10	475.30	- 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	326.70	345.80	- 1.70	...
Money	245.70	260.10	+ 0.20	...
International	379.80	402.00	+ 5.40	...
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD 0800 010575				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	17.66	18.59	...	...
Bear	19.53	20.56	- 0.08	...
Owl	20.55	21.63	+ 0.03	...
Bull	18.66	19.64	+ 0.10	...
Stag	20.18	21.24	+ 0.07	...
Gilt Edged	18.79	19.783	- 0.21	...
Deposit	15.51	16.33	...	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	23.72	24.97	...	...
Bear	26.71	28.12	- 0.11	...
Owl	28.04	29.52	+ 0.05	...
Bull	23.89	25.15	+ 0.13	...
Stag	25.32	26.65	+ 0.09	...
Gilt Edged	23.29	24.51	- 0.27	...
Deposit	19.84	20.88	...	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	600.77	600.78	+ 3.03	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	361.83	380.87	+ 0.52	...
N Amer Equity	302.68	318.61	+ 6.24	...
Far East Equity	434.90	457.79	+ 8.87	...
Fixed	294.73	310.26	- 3.43	...
Cash Deposit	200.30	210.84	...	...
Property	148.22	156.02	...	...
Special Opp	408.01	429.48	+ 0.60	...
Managed	318.30	335.05	+ 1.69	...
Index-Linked Fd	191.80	201.89	- 1.16	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	275.90	290.50	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	503.80	530.40	+ 0.10	...
Equity Fd Inc	176.30	185.60	+ 2.10	...
-do- Acc	226.30	238.30	+ 0.10	...
Selective Fd	484.70	510.30	- 1.30	...
Money Fd	368.20	387.60	+ 0.30	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	392.30	413.00	+ 0.10	...
Equity Ser 4	215.90	227.30	...	...
Man Ser 4	676.60	712.30	+ 1.10	...
Conv Ser 4	321.50	338.50	+ 0.20	...
Money Ser 4	321.20	338.20	- 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	344.30	362.50	- 3.50	...
American Ser 4	526.50	554.30	+11.90	...
High Inc Ser 4	678.70	714.50	+ 2.30	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	209.60	220.70	- 1.50	...
Japan Ser 4	381.10	401.20	+ 4.80	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1598.3	1679.2	+ 1.40	...
European Fd Acc	376.60	396.40	+ 3.20	...
Fixed Int Acc	510.60	537.50	-13.10	...
Gtd Money Acc	326.60	343.80	- 0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	609.50	641.50	+ 6.50	...
Inv Fxd Int Acc	320.60	337.40	- 0.30	...
Japan Fund	310.70	327.00	- 2.30	...
N American Acc	331.40	348.80	+ 9.60	...
Prop Fd Acc	429.30	451.80	+ 5.70	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1066.8	1122.9	+ 3.00	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	363.70	382.90	- 0.20	...
Equity Acc	1437.7	1513.4	- 2.00	...
Property Acc	532.10	560.20	+ 0.40	...
Far East Acc	341.00	359.00	- 2.00	...
Managed Capital	547.40	576.30	- 0.40	...
-do- Acc	1104.3	1162.5	- 0.50	...
Overseas Acc	975.50	1026.9	+ 2.60	...
Gilt Edged Acc	480.30	505.60	- 5.10	...
Amer Equity Acc	758.70	798.70	+19.80	...
Amer Man Acc	324.10	341.20	+ 7.80	...
Amer Prop Acc	117.80	124.00	+ 0.40	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 5	147.60	155.30	- 0.40	...
Balced Ser 5	696.60	733.20	- 3.70	...
Opportunity Ser 5	163.80	172.40	+ 1.40	...
Distribution Ser 5	102.50	107.80	- 0.30	...
UK Equities Ser 5	960.00	1010.5	+ 6.10	...
Higher Inc Ser 5	1021.2	1074.8	+10.40	...
North Amer Ser 5	439.80	462.90	+10.20	...
Far East Ser 5	573.60	603.70	- 3.10	...
Europe Ser 5	365.40	384.60	+ 2.90	...
Intnl Ser 5	562.00	591.50	+ 6.00	...
Property Ser 5	529.30	557.10	+ 1.40	...
Fixed Int Ser 5	410.80	432.40	- 3.90	...
Ind-Linkd Ser 5	180.50	189.90	- 1.00	...
Gteed Dep Ser 5	290.10	305.30	+ 0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	850.90	895.70	+ 3.60	...
-do- Initial	577.10	607.50	+ 2.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	383.90	404.20	- 5.60	...
-do- Initial	262.70	276.60	- 3.80	...
International Acc	416.40	438.40	+ 2.60	...
-do- Initial	283.10	298.00	+ 1.80	...
Managed Acc	530.10	558.10	+ 1.50	...
-do- Initial	361.70	380.80	+ 1.10	...
Money Acc	284.40	299.40	+ 0.20	...
Property Acc	282.50	297.40	+ 0.30	...
-do- Initial	191.00	201.10	...	...
America Acc	296.10	311.70	+ 9.00	...
Australia Acc	232.30	244.60	+ 2.20	...
Financial Acc	331.40	348.90	- 0.80	...
500 Accum	463.40	487.80	- 1.60	...
Japan Genl Acc	380.10	400.20	+ 1.90	...
Income Acc	528.40	556.30	+ 1.80	...
Leisure Acc	239.30	251.90	- 0.80	...
Special Sits Acc	243.10	255.90	- 0.40	...
Univ Tech Acc	157.60	165.90	- 0.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	816.73	816.73	- 3.72	...
Income Fund	764.96	805.23	- 2.16	...
Extra Income	699.36	736.17	+ 1.57	...
Worldwide Gth	522.15	549.64	+ 2.27	...
Balanced Fund	666.46	701.54	- 2.91	...
Smllr Cos Recov	720.59	758.52	- 4.52	...
N Amer & Genrl	383.11	403.28	+ 1.00	...
Pacific Basin	449.66	473.33	- 8.73	...
German Growth	236.34	248.78	+ 3.21	...
Japan Growth	197.85	208.27	- 2.51	...
The UK Gth Fd	211.46	222.59	+ 0.48	...
Contl Euro Gth	133.79	140.84	+ 1.98	...
Property Fund	386.93	407.30	+ 0.32	...
Fixed Interest	313.63	330.14	- 3.30	...
Cash Fund	277.06	291.65	+ 0.16	...
Managed Inv	494.24	520.26	- 2.28	...
Nth Amer Recov	264.43	278.35	+ 2.50	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	487.55	513.22	- 0.16	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 57, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 868000				
Measured Perf	172.30	182.30	+ 1.50	...
Performance Plus	176.90	187.10	+ 1.60	...
With Profit Perf	166.90	176.60	+ 0.10	...
UK Opportunity	183.00	193.60	+ 1.20	...
Euro Opportunity	227.80	241.00	+ 1.70	...
North Amer Opp	182.80	193.40	- 7.60	...
Far East Opp	197.70	209.20	- 6.00	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	143.30	150.70	+ 1.30	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	181.40	191.90	- 3.10	...
Fixed Int	188.50	199.40	- 1.90	...
Cash	153.20	162.10	+ 0.10	...
Overseas	203.90	215.70	+ 2.00	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	£238.60	...	...	...
Managed	334.40	352.00	- 0.80	...
Property	224.40	236.30	- 0.10	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	244.60	257.50	- 2.90	...
Equity	372.60	392.30	+ 0.60	...
Cash	213.30	224.40	+ 0.10	...
CLife Euro Mgd	378.60	398.60	+ 3.90	...
CLife Intl Fd	369.30	388.90	+ 3.80	...
For Cannon see Lincoln National				
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	182.20	191.80	...	...
Managed Fund	614.90	647.30	+ 4.00	...
Equity Fund	348.50	366.90	+ 3.30	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	293.70	309.20	+ 1.00	...
Ruby	176.30	185.60	+ 1.70	...
Emerald	143.20	150.80	- 1.70	...
Equity	329.70	347.10	+ 1.40	...
Property	216.40	227.80	+ 0.70	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	206.10	217.00	- 4.60	...
Indexed Secs	165.40	174.20	- 1.80	...
Cash	183.10	192.80	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	227.60	239.60	+ 6.00	...
Far East	325.50	342.70	-10.80	...
International	241.90	254.70	+ 2.30	...
Special Sits	349.20	367.60	+ 2.30	...
Intl Income	297.30	313.00	+ 1.70	...
American Inc	198.10	208.60	+ 4.30	...
European	316.30	333.00	+ 3.00	...
Japanese	152.00	160.00	+ 4.00	...
SE Asia	358.40	377.30	-14.10	...
With Profits Reg	156.50	164.80	+ 0.20	...
-do- Spec	156.50	164.80	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	326.90	344.20	+ 1.50	...
Equity	384.50	404.80	+ 3.10	...
Property	196.10	206.50	+ 0.80	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	250.90	264.20	- 3.50	...
Index Linked	174.90	184.20	- 1.60	...
Cash	242.70	255.50	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	282.00	296.90	+ 8.30	...
Far East Acc	337.50	355.30	- 0.10	...
International Acc	312.40	328.90	+ 2.80	...
Special Sits	506.10	532.80	+ 3.40	...
European Flex	448.70	472.40	+ 4.80	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Units):Key	£226.84	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£317.15	...	...	...
-do- Cash	199.79	210.31	+ 0.10	...
-do- Equity	546.14	574.88	- 1.18	...
-do- Fxd Int	367.73	387.08	- 6.06	...
-do-Managed	390.59	411.15	- 2.06	...
-do- Property	368.53	387.93	- 8.90	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	207.35	218.27	+ 0.03	...
-do- Cash Inv	295.99	311.58	+ 0.26	...
-do- Equity Cap	1467.2	1544.2	+ 5.19	...
-do- Equity Inv	2094.2	2204.4	+ 8.90	...
-do- Fixed Cap	403.05	424.27	- 2.73	...
-do- Fixed Inv	575.35	605.64	- 3.50	...
-do- Index Cap	207.96	218.91	- 2.18	...
-do- Index Inv	296.86	312.50	- 2.89	...
Mngd Cap	580.15	610.70	+ 1.92	...
Mngd Inv	828.17	871.77	+ 3.32	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£705.85	...	- 2.10	...
Var Ann (5)	£92.16	...	- 0.55	...
Prime: Managed	408.50	430.00	+ 0.80	...
Prime: UK Equity	487.60	513.30	+ 0.60	...
Prime: Int Equity	317.30	334.50	+ 1.70	...
Prime: Property	236.50	249.00	+ 1.50	...
Prime Fxd Int	240.80	253.50	- 2.50	...
Prime Index-Link	171.80	180.90	- 1.30	...
Prime: Cash	200.70	211.30	+ 0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	1159.2	1220.2	- 9.10	...
Equity Fund	1676.7	1764.9	-16.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	601.00	632.60	+ 2.10	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	369.90	389.30	- 3.10	...
Life Equity Acc	822.90	866.20	+ 3.40	...
Life Money Acc	294.70	310.20	+ 0.30	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	839.00	883.10	- 2.80	...
Life Intl Acc	520.00	547.30	+ 3.20	...
Life High Inc Acc	785.30	826.60	+ 6.30	...
Life Property Acc	273.20	287.50	+ 0.40	...
Crown Brit Inv A	1389.9	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	711.80	749.30	+ 7.70	...
Life Equity Acc	234.00	246.30	...	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	171.30	180.40	+ 0.10	...
Blue Chip Fund	248.30	261.40	+ 0.50	...
-do- Series 2	160.90	169.40	+ 0.40	...
Adventurous Fd	210.60	221.70	+ 1.00	...
-do- Series 2	159.60	168.00	+ 0.80	...
Performance Fd	258.40	272.10	+ 1.50	...
-do- Series 2	168.90	177.80	+ 1.00	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	143.20	150.80	- 2.80	...
UK Equity Fund	163.30	171.90	+ 0.60	...
Property Fund	116.30	122.50	+ 0.70	...
Envrnmntl Opps	163.20	171.80	+ 1.00	...
Euro Fund	187.00	196.90	+ 2.60	...
North Amer Fd	202.70	213.40	+ 4.20	...
Oriental Ops	231.70	243.90	-10.30	...
Japanese Fund	136.80	144.00	+ 0.60	...
Bd & West Life	119.60	125.90	+ 0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	132.70	139.70	+ 0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	277.10	287.10	+ 0.90	3.19
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	308.00	324.30	+ 0.40	...
UK Equity	406.50	427.90	+ 1.00	...
Stewardship	358.20	377.10	...	...
Overseas Equity	288.10	303.30	+ 0.70	...
North American	153.90	162.10	- 1.60	...
Pacific Basin	168.50	177.40	- 2.00	...
European	206.40	217.30	+ 2.20	...
Property	203.60	214.40	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	233.00	245.30	- 2.60	...
Index Linked	168.00	176.90	- 0.80	...
Cash	195.70	206.10	+ 0.10	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	366.40	385.70	- 5.40	...
GT Plan Wwide	543.90	572.60	- 8.20	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	210.70	221.60	+ 0.90	...
Unitised Profit	129.50	136.20	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	279.40	294.00	+ 1.50	...
Fixed Int	194.20	204.30	- 4.40	...
Index-Linked	164.30	172.90	- 1.50	...
Cash Deposit	170.90	179.80	+ 0.10	...
Property	181.70	191.10	+ 0.10	...
International	188.50	198.30	- 1.00	...
American	162.60	171.10	+ 3.60	...
Japan	265.70	278.60	+ 1.20	...
Japan Smllr Cos	272.10	286.30	+ 2.30	...
European	183.80	193.40	+ 1.20	...
Pacific Fund	290.60	305.80	- 2.70	...
Conv Life	135.30	142.30	...	...
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	708.80	708.80	+ 1.30	...
-do- Inv A	708.70	746.10	+ 1.40	...
UK Equity	401.90	423.10	+ 1.60	...
Gilt Plus	205.90	216.80	- 4.10	...
Managed	311.80	328.30	+ 0.70	...
Inter Man	282.40	297.40	+ 1.30	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	753.10	784.50	...	...
Managed Initial	487.90	513.50	- 1.70	...
-do- Acc	684.60	720.60	- 2.00	...
Equity Initial	711.60	749.10	- 4.00	...
-do- Acc	998.60	1051.2	- 5.10	...
Fixed Int Initial	451.30	475.10	- 7.10	...
-do- Acc	633.30	666.60	- 9.80	...
Intl Initial	494.70	520.70	+ 5.10	...
-do- Acc	694.10	730.60	+ 7.50	...
Nth Amer Initial	191.30	201.40	+ 4.70	...
-do- Acc	244.30	257.20	+ 6.10	...
Pacific Initial	261.30	275.00	- 0.50	...
-do- Acc	330.50	347.90	- 0.40	...
Property Initial	170.10	179.10	...	...
-do- Acc	238.40	251.00	...	...
Index-Linkd Initl	160.60	169.10	- 1.80	...
-do- Acc	205.10	215.90	- 2.30	...
Deposit Initial	195.60	205.90	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	274.40	288.90	+ 0.20	...
Euro Initial	106.50	112.10	+ 1.50	...
-do- Acc	125.70	132.30	+ 1.80	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	169.10	178.00	+ 0.60	...
-do- Pens	208.00	218.90	+ 1.00	...
UK Equity	168.30	177.10	+ 1.30	...
-do- Pens	191.50	201.50	+ 2.00	...
International	147.80	155.50	+ 1.30	...
-do- Pens	160.50	168.90	+ 1.40	...
Deposit	137.30	144.50	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	161.30	169.70	+ 0.20	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	379.90	404.20	+ 0.60	...
North America	372.10	395.90	+ 8.60	...
Far East Fund	661.40	703.70	-11.90	...
Global Managed	489.50	520.80	+ 0.50	...
Deposit Fund	224.90	236.80	+ 0.20	...
Prime Residential	129.70	136.60	...	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Fund	268.40	285.60	+ 1.50	...
Fixed Interest	68.90	73.40	...	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	518.10	548.30	+ 5.90	...
British Fund	529.80	560.70	+ 6.60	...
International	544.20	575.90	+ 8.90	...
Dollar Fund	391.00	413.80	+14.40	...
Capital Fund	478.20	506.10	+ 3.80	...
Income Fund	702.80	743.60	- 3.80	...
Property Series A	435.10	460.50	+ 0.60	4.80
Property Units	714.10	749.90	+ 0.80	...
Financial Fund	586.20	620.40	+ 3.50	...
Managed Ser A	552.30	584.50	+ 2.40	...
Managed Units	985.80	1037.7	- 4.40	...
High Yield Fund	673.20	712.40	- 1.20	...
Money Series A	281.90	298.40	+ 0.30	...
Money Units	372.60	392.30	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fund	630.70	667.50	+ 4.60	...
Fixed Interest	375.90	397.80	- 8.10	...
Indexed Secs	184.40	195.20	- 2.20	...
European Fund	749.90	793.60	+ 7.00	...
Natural Res	306.40	324.30	+ 2.00	...
Far East Fund	678.10	717.60	- 2.70	...
Smaller Cos	526.50	557.20	- 1.30	...
Special Sits	455.80	482.40	+ 1.60	...
Man Currency	258.30	273.40	+ 0.30	...
Japanese Tech	294.40	311.60	- 4.90	...
US Smaller Cos	238.00	251.90	+ 8.40	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3TF. 0727 42391				
Global Managed	563.60	593.30	+ 3.30	...
Global Property	282.30	297.20	...	...
Global Fixed Int	515.30	542.30	- 8.60	...
Global Equity	598.30	629.80	+ 4.70	...
Global Cash	208.80	219.80	+ 0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	487.30	512.90	- 7.40	...
Property	473.20	498.10	+ 0.40	...
Managed	425.40	447.70	+ 1.60	...
American	417.90	439.80	+ 8.00	...
UK Equity Fd	459.40	483.50	+ 2.90	...
Japan	223.00	234.70	+ 1.40	...
Index-Lkd	184.10	193.70	- 1.30	...
High Yield	860.70	905.90	+ 3.60	...
Growth Cap	436.00	458.90	- 7.50	...
Money	394.00	414.70	+ 0.20	...
International	407.90	429.30	+ 3.00	...
Henderson Active	228.00	240.00	+ 0.40	...
Perpetual Active	341.00	358.90	+ 1.80	...
Growth Cap	436.00	458.90	- 7.50	...
-do- Acc	663.60	698.50	+ 2.40	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Inh	135.10	142.30	...	...
-do- Acc	182.30	191.90	+ 0.10	...
Brit Opps Int	146.80	154.60	+ 0.70	...
-do- Acc	178.20	187.60	+ 0.80	...
Cash Initial	167.20	176.00	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	281.40	296.30	+ 0.30	...
Equity Initial	665.50	700.60	+ 3.90	...
-do- Acc	1120.0	1179.0	+ 6.50	...
Fixed Initial	351.70	370.30	- 6.90	...
-do- Acc	591.90	623.10	-11.80	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	136.93	144.20	- 1.20	...
-do- Acc	196.60	207.00	- 1.80	...
Intl Initial	369.40	388.90	+ 1.20	...
-do- Acc	612.10	644.40	+ 2.00	...
Managed Initial	496.50	522.70	+ 8.00	...
-do- Acc	835.70	879.70	+13.50	...
Property Initial	212.30	223.40	- 0.20	...
-do- Acc	357.10	375.90	+ 0.30	...
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND 113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5000				
Managed Fund	360.60	379.60	- 0.30	...
UK Equity	586.60	617.50	+ 0.50	...
Property	295.90	311.50	- 0.10	...
Money Market	247.10	260.20	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	321.50	338.50	- 3.00	...
Japan	417.20	439.20	+ 1.30	...
North America	165.20	173.90	- 0.60	...
International	317.90	334.70	...	...
European	290.80	306.20	- 0.60	...
Far East	140.40	147.80	- 1.40	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£126.74	...	+ 0.27	...
Property Units	£27.28	...	+ 0.04	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£66.51	£70.01	+ 0.43	...
2nd Equity Acc	644.70	678.70	+ 1.30	...
2nd High Inc Ac	616.20	648.60	+ 5.40	...
2nd Property Acc	249.00	262.10	+ 0.30	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	182.80	192.40	- 0.30	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	484.50	510.10	+ 2.80	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	244.10	256.90	+ 1.60	...
2nd Deposit Acc	275.00	289.40	+ 0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	305.60	321.70	- 3.50	...
2nd Amer Acc	745.00	784.20	+18.20	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	259.60	273.30	- 1.00	...
2nd Index Acc	201.00	211.60	- 0.50	...
2nd Far East Acc	488.90	514.60	+ 6.60	...
2nd Global Acc	189.60	199.60	+ 1.20	...
2nd Euro Acc	166.20	174.90	+ 0.60	...
2nd Japan Acc	214.50	225.80	+ 3.20	...
2nd Heritage Acc	75.30	79.30	+ 4.00	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	160.60	169.10	+ 4.00	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	133.40	140.40	+ 0.50	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	£917.90	...	+ 4.20	...
Fixed Interest	£417.10	...	- 5.00	...
Property	£378.10	...	+ 0.40	...
Deposit	£285.30	...	+ 0.20	...
Mixed	£601.30	...	+ 2.50	...
Indexed Stock	£214.20	...	- 1.70	...
International	£290.30	...	+ 3.10	...
Equity A	£213.20	...	+ 0.90	...
Fixed Int A	£185.30	...	- 2.20	...
Property A	£166.40	...	+ 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Deposit A	£167.90	...	+ 0.10	...
Mixed A	£197.90	...	+ 0.90	...
Index Stock A	£167.90	...	- 1.30	...
International A	£187.20	...	+ 1.90	...
Equity P	£767.80	...	- 5.40	...
Fixed Int P	£543.90	...	- 7.40	...
Property P	£308.00	...	+ 0.50	...
Deposit P	£333.10	...	+ 0.30	...
Mixed P	£939.40	...	+ 3.50	...
Index Stock P	£243.70	...	- 1.80	...
International P	£351.20	...	+ 4.90	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	£643.20	...	- 2.40	...
-do- Acc	£1042.8	...	- 2.90	...
Property Cap	£147.00	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£229.90	...	+ 0.20	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£204.90	...	- 3.60	...
-do- Acc	£321.90	...	- 5.50	...
Equity Cap	£335.20	...	+ 2.30	...
-do- Acc	£533.00	...	+ 4.00	...
Internatl Cap	£252.90	...	+ 1.20	...
-do- Acc	£398.60	...	+ 2.40	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£167.80	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£260.60	...	+ 0.10	...
Flexible Cap	£363.20	...	+ 1.30	...
-do- Acc	£576.30	...	+ 2.60	...
Moneymaker Fd	£447.00	...	+ 0.80	...
Capital Growth	£1718.5	...	+12.80	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	426.90	448.30	+14.20	...
Amer Rec Bond	502.10	527.20	+19.40	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	250.40	263.00	+ 9.40	...
Australasia Bd	245.60	258.00	+ 0.20	...
Commodity Bond	339.30	356.30	+ 9.10	...
Deposit Bond Acc	354.00	371.80	+ 0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1539.6	1616.7	+14.70	...
European Bd Acc	394.20	414.00	- 5.20	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	736.90	773.80	+ 0.60	...
Far East Bd Acc	327.10	343.50	- 8.20	...
Gilt Bond Acc	450.90	473.50	-10.30	...
Gold Bond Acc	178.40	187.50	+ 5.30	...
High Yield Bond	350.00	367.60	- 4.90	3.87
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	212.90	223.60	- 1.90	...
International Bd	805.50	845.90	+17.90	...
Japan Bond Acc	295.70	310.60	- 6.20	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	290.20	304.80	- 5.00	...
Managed Bonds	899.00	944.50	- 9.00	...
Prop Bond Acc	363.50	381.80	+ 0.40	...
Rec Bond Acc	777.30	816.40	- 4.90	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	233.20	245.50	+ 1.20	...
UK Equity Acc	320.80	337.70	+ 2.00	...
Special Sits	98.50	103.70	+ 0.10	...
Special Sits Acc	135.60	142.80	+ 0.20	...
North American	188.00	197.90	+ 4.50	...
N American Acc	258.70	272.40	+ 6.40	...
Pacific Basin	383.20	403.40	- 6.50	...
Pacific Basin Acc	527.20	555.00	- 8.70	...
Fixed Interest	290.00	305.30	- 4.70	...
Fixed Interest Acc	399.50	420.60	- 6.30	...
Property	167.60	176.50	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	230.90	243.10	+ 0.20	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	209.70	220.80	+ 0.10	...
Managed	268.50	282.70	- 1.10	...
Managed Acc	340.50	358.50	+ 1.50	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	714.60	752.20	+ 1.00	...
Property Fund	512.00	538.90	- 0.40	...
Equity Fund	905.90	953.60	+ 3.70	...
Gilt Edged Fd	608.90	640.90	-14.20	...
Deposit Fund	323.50	340.50	+ 0.20	...
Investment Fd	385.10	404.40	+ 1.80	...
International	574.40	604.60	+ 7.60	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366				
Property	440.60	463.70	+ 0.60	...
UK Equity	344.70	362.80	+ 4.30	...
Gilt Edged	591.90	623.00	- 9.60	...
Interest Fund	374.80	394.50	- 0.20	...
UK Fund	501.60	528.00	- 6.20	...
Intl Equity	634.10	667.40	- 3.70	...
Intl Managed	586.20	617.00	...	...
North American	218.30	229.70	+ 4.90	...
Far East	493.80	519.70	- 4.70	...
Intl Currency	266.80	280.80	- 1.90	...
NM LIFE ASSURANCE Enterprise House, Portsmouth 0705 827733				
Equity	149.40	157.20	+ 1.60	...
Fixed Interest	541.40	569.80	- 5.90	...
Managed	712.20	749.60	- 7.00	...
Deposit	332.20	349.60	- 0.20	...
Property	431.20	453.80	+ 0.40	...
American	412.40	434.10	+ 6.10	...
Australian	545.30	574.00	+ 7.70	...
European	534.30	562.40	+10.60	...
Global Managed				
Income Acc	767.90	808.30	+ 9.90	...
-do- Dist	482.90	508.30	+ 8.60	3.78
International	325.50	342.60	+ 3.60	...
Japan Smaller	548.10	576.90	+ 6.90	...
Singapore & Mal	347.10	365.30	- 6.10	...
Smaller Cos	444.80	468.20	+ 0.80	...
Tokyo Fund	719.10	756.90	+19.70	...
UK Equity	604.50	636.30	+ 7.50	...
CCM Vangd Mg	745.30	784.50	+ 4.50	...
Equity Pens Cap	...	...	...	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	485.50	511.00	+ 1.80	...
UK Equity	602.60	634.30	+ 3.40	...
Overseas Equity	491.20	517.00	+ 2.00	...
Americas	433.20	455.90	+10.30	...
Far East	575.40	605.60	- 6.50	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property	208.30	219.20	+ 1.00	...
Fixed Interest	371.90	391.00	- 4.50	...
Indexed Gilt	230.00	242.10	- 1.80	...
Deposit	211.70	222.80	+ 0.10	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 148, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	1411.2	1485.5	+ 5.10	...
Eqty Fund	3065.1	3226.4	+16.30	...
Property Fd	568.00	597.90	- 1.20	...
Fixed Int Fd	587.10	618.00	- 8.80	...
Deposit Fund	339.00	357.30	+ 0.20	...
Intl Fund	242.30	255.10	+ 1.30	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	157.70	166.00	...	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	317.40	334.20	+ 0.20	...
Inv Equity	1200.9	1264.2	+ 1.00	...
Inv Managed	851.20	896.10	+ 1.10	...
Ret Managed	955.50	1005.8	+ 0.20	...
For Prolific see Scottish Provident				
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	288.00	303.80	+ 1.50	...
Fxd Interest Acc	244.70	258.20	- 6.20	...
International Acc	275.20	290.40	+ 2.50	...
Managed Acc	228.50	241.10	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	231.30	244.00	...	...
Money Acc	150.50	158.50	...	...
Spec Mkt Acc	245.70	259.20	...	...
Japan Equity Acc	130.90	138.00	- 0.20	...
N Amer Acc	169.70	179.10	+ 6.90	...
Pacific Acc	173.40	183.00	- 1.40	...
European Acc	191.10	201.60	+ 6.30	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL Walsworth Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9LP 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	473.30	498.20	+ 0.50	...
Managed Initial	326.70	343.90	+ 0.10	...
Equity Ord	712.80	750.30	+ 1.50	...
Equity Init	492.00	517.90	+ 0.70	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	200.20	210.70	- 1.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	144.30	151.90	- 1.00	...
Oseas Equity Ord	390.30	410.80	+ 0.70	...
Oseas Equity Init	269.40	283.60	+ 0.30	...
Property Ord	263.20	277.10	+ 0.30	...
Property Init	181.70	191.30	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Int Ord	278.00	292.60	- 4.80	...
Fixed Int Init	191.90	202.00	- 3.40	...
Deposit Ord	202.10	212.70	+ 0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.50	146.80	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	342.30	356.50	- 1.40	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3228				
Managed Fund	793.10	834.90	+ 5.00	...
Equity Fund	1484.7	1562.9	+ 7.90	...
Intl Fund	625.10	658.10	+ 6.70	...
Fixed Interest	568.80	598.80	-10.90	...
Property Fund	429.90	452.60	+ 0.40	...
Cash Fund	357.80	376.70	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	368.20	387.60	- 0.60	...
N American Fd	244.20	257.10	+ 5.90	...
Euro Fund	268.60	282.80	+ 3.80	...
Balanced Fund	155.20	163.40	+ 0.90	...
Strategic Fund	164.60	173.30	+ 1.40	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	£791.90	...	...	...
-do- Acc	491.90	517.80	...	...
Op Prop	481.20	506.60	+ 0.10	...
Op Equity	924.60	973.30	+ 1.90	...
Op High Yield	575.10	605.40	- 7.90	...
Op Managed	816.80	859.80	+ 2.00	...
Op Deposit	384.20	404.50	+ 0.30	...
Inc Gth	322.50	339.50	+14.50	...
Japan Smlr	288.20	303.40	+ 3.00	...
Managed Gth	263.40	277.30	+ 2.30	...
Gilt	83.80	88.30	- 1.20	...
British	371.40	391.00	+ 3.80	...
Global Bond	116.90	123.10	+ 0.50	...
Global (35.34)	172.60	181.70	+ 1.80	...
Gold Share	95.60	100.70	- 3.10	...
High Income	312.30	328.80	- 0.80	...
Income	418.40	440.50	-19.50	...
Japan	472.70	497.60	+10.20	...
UK Smlr Cos	341.60	359.60	+ 1.90	...
Mngd Growth	469.20	493.90	+ 2.90	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	982.90	1040.0	+ 5.30	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	391.80	412.40	+ 2.30	...
Equity Fund	534.70	562.80	+ 1.10	...
Property Fund	320.40	337.20	- 0.10	...
International	506.70	533.30	+ 6.70	...
Pacific Basin	306.90	323.00	...	...
United States	266.70	280.70	+ 7.70	...
Gilt Fund	362.70	381.70	- 0.40	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	772.50	817.50	+ 0.90	2.19
Deposit Fund (2)	361.40	382.50	+ 0.20	5.74
Gilt Fund	520.10	550.40	- 7.40	8.16
Global Equity Fd	244.80	259.10	+ 1.40	...
Property Fund (46)	101.50	107.50	...	5.92
AG Bond Fund	161.00	170.40	- 1.30	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	581.70	612.40	- 1.20	...
Fixed Interest	370.00	389.50	- 4.90	...
Index-Linked	197.00	207.40	- 1.80	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International	477.20	502.40	+ 3.40	...
Property	287.60	302.60	+ 0.40	...
Cash	225.00	236.90	+ 0.10	...
Managed	468.70	493.40	+ 0.10	...
Cap Gteed Bd	110.90	116.80	+ 0.70	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	177.48	186.82	+ 0.13	...
Index-Linked	161.80	170.30	- 1.70	...
Fixed Interest	176.50	185.80	- 2.00	...
Mixed	256.60	270.20	- 0.70	...
UK Equity	240.80	253.40	+ 1.10	...
International	265.70	279.60	+ 0.10	...
American	258.20	271.80	+ 3.10	...
Japan	251.40	264.70	+ 3.50	...
European	255.40	268.80	+ 1.60	...
Pacific	379.30	399.20	- 6.00	...
Technology	365.90	385.20	+ 1.30	...
Currncy/Currncy	229.80	241.90	+ 1.40	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	211.10	222.30	+ 0.30	...
UK Equity	358.10	377.10	+ 1.70	...
American	260.20	274.00	+ 3.80	...
Pacific	375.30	395.10	- 3.70	...
European	483.40	509.00	+ 3.30	...
International	321.40	338.40	+ 1.60	...
Fixed Interest	237.20	249.80	- 7.00	...
Index Linked	195.10	205.40	- 1.80	...
Deposit	189.80	199.90	...	...
Managed	289.90	305.20	+ 0.60	...
Worldwide	131.20	138.20	- 0.50	...
Pen Worldwide	140.30	147.70	- 0.60	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Pnst Fund (35)	1685.3	1737.4	-35.30	...
Safety Fund	233.70	246.10	- 2.30	...
Growth Fund	232.30	244.60	+ 0.90	...
Opportunity Fd	226.60	238.60	+ 0.50	...
Cash Fund	170.90	179.00	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	347.40	365.70	- 0.20	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	197.50	207.90	- 3.90	...
Index-Linked Fd	179.70	189.20	- 1.80	...
International Fd	298.40	314.20	+ 2.30	...
North American	253.00	266.40	+ 5.60	...
Property Fund	121.10	127.50	- 0.10	...
UK Equity	242.90	255.70	+ 0.40	...
UK Smaller	241.80	254.60	- 0.20	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	275.50	290.10	+ 0.60	...
Equity	288.70	304.00	+ 0.40	...
International	293.50	309.10	- 0.90	...
Property	223.80	235.60	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	219.40	231.10	- 1.10	...
Index Linked	181.60	191.20	- 1.10	...
Cash	183.40	193.10	+ 0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	819.70	872.10	+ 0.50	...
Cash Fund	331.70	349.60	- 0.10	...
Property Fund	244.30	259.90	- 0.20	...
Equity Fund	979.40	1042.0	+ 0.40	...
Fxd Interest Fund	459.10	483.80	- 1.90	...
International	436.40	464.30	- 1.90	...
High Income	727.00	773.50	+ 3.00	...
Far East	637.80	678.30	- 2.50	...
North American	581.60	618.80	+15.30	...
Special Sits	668.90	711.60	- 2.00	...
Technology	581.20	618.40	+15.60	...
Extra Income Fd	391.20	416.20	+ 1.10	...
Gilt Fund	478.90	509.50	- 2.00	...
European	158.10	168.20	+ 1.70	...
Adventurous Mg	234.00	246.40	+ 1.80	...
Secure Mgd	148.80	158.40	+ 0.20	...
Equity Inc Dist	123.30	131.20	+ 0.50	4.52
North American	116.50	124.00	+ 0.20	5.16
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	977.40	977.40	+ 5.60	...
Inv Pol 2	889.80	936.70	+ 5.30	...
Inv Pol 3	853.50	898.50	+ 5.20	...
Inv Cash	306.90	323.20	+ 0.30	...
Mixed Fund	461.20	485.70	+ 2.50	...
Equity Fund	540.50	569.10	+ 4.20	...
Property Fund	226.40	238.50	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	513.20	540.30	+ 3.90	...
Fixed Interest Fd	374.90	394.70	- 6.50	...
Indexed Stock Fd	197.10	207.50	- 2.40	...
Cash Fund	223.00	234.80	+ 0.10	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	381.50	401.50	...	...
Equity Acc	447.20	470.70	- 0.60	...
International Acc	359.20	378.10	+ 2.40	...
Property	228.70	240.70	+ 0.20	...
Royal Trust Mg	247.10	260.10	+ 0.60	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	263.10	277.00	+ 0.10	...
Equity	1001.6	1054.4	+ 1.70	...
European	173.10	182.30	+ 0.70	...
Far East	175.50	184.80	- 3.30	...
Fixed Interest	395.00	415.80	- 7.70	...
Index Linked	207.60	218.60	- 1.70	...
International	632.70	666.10	- 0.90	...
Managed	706.40	743.60	- 0.10	...
Nth American	148.40	156.30	+ 3.40	...
Property	340.90	358.90	+ 0.50	...
Pensions				
Cash	406.90	428.40	- 0.30	...
Equity	1444.6	1520.7	+ 4.00	...
European	208.10	219.10	+ 1.30	...
Far East	140.60	148.00	- 3.30	...
Fixed Interest	536.10	564.40	- 8.70	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Index Linked	287.00	302.20	- 2.30	...
International	893.70	940.80	- 1.60	...
Managed	992.00	1044.3	+ 0.40	...
Nth American	186.60	196.50	+ 5.10	...
Property	449.80	473.50	+ 1.60	...
Stock Exchange	224.30	236.09	+ 0.10	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	669.10	704.40	+ 2.80	...
Equity Fund	871.80	917.70	+ 4.50	...
Fixed Interest Fd	415.80	437.70	- 7.00	...
Index-Linked Fd	313.70	330.30	- 2.70	...
Property Fund	309.30	326.20	+ 1.00	...
International Fd	654.20	688.70	+ 0.80	...
N American Fd	259.60	273.30	+ 6.90	...
Far East Fund	232.20	244.50	- 4.80	...
Deposit Fund	289.60	304.90	+ 0.20	...
International Bd	£300.21	...	+ 0.17	...
Worldwide Bond	158.90	167.30	+ 0.10	...
Worldwide Fincl	80.30	84.60	+ 0.10	...
Worldwide Tech	95.60	100.70	+ 0.10	...
European	172.70	181.80	+ 2.80	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	666.30	701.50	+ 0.80	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	464.60	497.10	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£894.90	...	+ 1.80	...
-do- Acc	£547.20	...	+ 1.70	...
Agricultural Fd	£799.40	...	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc	£768.00	...	+ 0.80	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£433.00	...	+ 0.80	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£459.50	...	+ 0.50	...
Investment Fd	£354.70	...	+ 1.40	...
Investment (A)	£341.00	...	+ 1.40	...
Equity	£1283.7	...	+ 8.00	...
Equity Acc	£1212.5	...	+ 6.20	...
Money Fund	£460.10	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	£440.60	...	+ 0.30	...
Actuarial Fd	£385.40	...	+ 0.80	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£388.50	...	- 8.20	...
-do- Acc	£388.50	...	- 5.80	...
Retire Annuity	£1177.5	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£515.90	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£221.00	...	+ 0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£1477.2	...	+ 1.40	...
Managed Acc	£830.30	...	- 2.00	...
Equity Account	£1167.8	...	- 8.20	...
Mngd Fund Acc	383.80	403.90	- 1.00	...
Equity Fund Acc	512.50	539.50	- 3.80	...
Prop Fund Acc	246.50	259.50	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	319.20	336.00	- 4.80	...
Money Fund Acc	216.60	228.00	+ 0.30	...
Indx-Lnk Scr Ac	209.00	220.00	[illegible]	...
Pens Pens Acct	£1901.7	...	-18.80	...
Pens Mngd Acct	884.10	930.60	- 7.50	...
Pens Guarantee	235.80	248.20	+ 0.40	...
Pens Equity	336.90	354.70	- 3.80	...
Pens Property	279.40	294.10	+ 0.40	...
Pens Fixed Int	288.70	303.80	- 6.10	...
Pens Intl	253.40	266.80	+ 0.30	...
Pens Money	229.80	241.90	+ 0.30	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	196.60	207.00	- 2.30	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	915.50	963.70	+ 3.20	...
Property Acc	340.20	358.20	- 2.60	...
Equity Acc	1489.1	1546.5	+ 8.80	...
Fixed Int Acc	392.10	412.80	- 5.80	...
Index-Linked Acc	202.10	212.80	- 2.00	...
Cash Acc	302.80	318.80	+ 0.30	...
Amer Equity Acc	371.20	390.80	+ 7.00	...
Japan Acc	331.30	348.80	+ 7.30	...
Pacific Acc	351.60	370.20	-12.30	...
Far Eastern Acc	847.90	892.60	-20.50	...
International Acc	616.10	648.60	+ 5.80	...
Distribution Fund	291.80	307.20	+ 0.30	3.70
European	200.90	211.50	+ 1.80	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	284.40	299.40	+ 1.40	...
Property Fund	211.10	222.40	...	...
Fixed Interest Fd	224.20	236.20	- 3.50	...
Money Fund	196.00	206.40	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	379.40	399.50	+ 2.80	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
Deposit	244.30	257.40	+ 0.10	...
Financial Ser 1	49.10	52.70	- 0.40	...
Fixed Interest	323.20	340.30	- 4.40	...
Gold	93.30	98.30	+ 1.30	...
Managed	632.90	666.30	- 3.50	...
Mngd Growth	200.30	210.90	+ 0.40	...
Mngd Opp	211.70	222.90	+ 0.50	...
Property	298.80	314.60	...	...
Residential Prop	95.60	100.70	+ 0.20	...
TSB American	218.20	229.80	+10.50	...
TSB Brit Gwth	842.60	887.10	+17.90	...
TSB European	289.50	304.80	+ 2.40	...
TSB Income	410.50	432.00	+ 5.20	...
TSB Intl	436.20	459.20	+ 1.30	...
TSB Intl Inc	289.20	304.50	- 0.30	...
TSB Pacific	436.00	459.00	- 3.40	...
TSB Prem Inc	264.70	278.60	- 2.80	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929				
Managed Bond	713.10	751.40	+ 0.10	...
Money Fund	310.80	326.90	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	646.60	681.40	- 8.50	...
Fixed Interest	281.60	296.70	- 1.60	...
Property Fund	351.40	369.90	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	619.30	652.60	+10.50	...
Income	761.40	802.30	+ 4.70	...
International Gth	669.90	705.90	+ 8.10	...
Capital Fund	660.40	695.90	- 1.60	...
Recovery Fund	694.70	732.00	+ 8.50	...
Japan & General	298.30	314.30	+ 2.30	...



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INVESTORS CHRONICLE
THE CITY INSIDE OUT

Rally at the close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 14. Dealings end March 25. §Contango day March 28. Settlement day April 5. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
490	412	Wardle Storeys	468	-5	...	4.6	21.6
658	395	Wstnhmr E	658	...	17.0	3.2	22.5
483	330	Yorks Chem	448 †	...	...	2.3	21.2
312	233	Yule Catto	282	...	...	2.7	17.6
860	593	Zeneca	754 †	+3	...	4.6	16.6

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
534	345	Abbey Ntl	485 †	-2	...	3.6	16.3
314	179	Allied Irish	362 †	-2	...	4.8	∞
278½	130	Ans New Z	248½	+2½	...	3.7	19.5
2809½	2712½	Bankamerica	2862½	-62½	...	...	...
319	177	Bk of Ireland	261	-1	...	4.8	19.2
450	325	Bk Leumi UK	430 †	...	20.0	5.8	∞
297	119½	Bank Scotland	196	-4	4.6	3.0	26.6
652	362	Barclays	552 †	-1	...	3.4	28.2
37	8	Carlisle	32½	...	...	...	...
655	395	Cater Allen	560	-2	28.0	6.2	...
180	85	Cattles	157	-1	...	3.6	20.9
2487½	1543½	Chase Manh	2240½	-12½	...	...	...
2912½	1343½	Citicorp	2790	+6½	...	...	...
571	250	Close Bros	541 †	...	...	3.0	14.7
£153½	9171½	Commerzbk	£142½	-17½	...	2.7	...
£348½	£250½	Deutsche Bk	£317	-43½	...	1.9	...
98	45	First Nat Fin	83	...	...	2.3	...
1851	876	Fuji Bank Y	1444½	+3½	...	0.4	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	434	-4	21.5	6.2	11.5
1113	490	HSBC	787 †	-37	28.5	3.7	∞
1133	474	HSBC HK	804 †	-41	23.5	3.7	∞
473	243	Hambros	366	-8	14.3	4.9	16.9
443	313	Joseph (L)	425	-3	16.7	4.9	...
170	96	King Sharson	152	+1	9.0	7.4	...
693	312	Kleinwort Ben	526 †	-12	18.5	4.4	∞
600	402	Lloyds	582 †	-9	...	4.7	12.3
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	115	...	3.4	3.7	19.4
600½	322	Nat Aust Bk	564½	+3½	...	4.2	13.7
634	398	Nat West	485 †	-8	...	4.8	13.5
573	220	Provident	485 †	-8	16.0	4.1	∞
69	39	Rea Bros	69	...	0.7	1.4	∞
528	207	Ryl Bk Scot	437	...	...	3.1	19.8
1460	467½	Schroders	1169	-54	16.5	1.8	∞
1437	576	Stand Chart	1160 †	+22	...	2.6	11.4
291	145½	TSB	233 †	-3½	...	4.1	15.9
206	78	Union	170 †	...	3.0	2.2	∞
1012	529	Warburg SG	765	-19	...	3.2	11.2
9643½	4843½	Wells Fargo	9587½	-56½	...	2.8	...
260	121	Westpac	243	...	...	2.2	...
390	188	Wintrust	365 †	...	...	3.3	32.6

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
697	517	Allied-Lyons	616	-2	...	4.3	17.1
647	441	Bass	524	-1	...	4.7	14.0
299	189	Boddington	278 †	-1	...	3.6	14.1
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	429	-8	...	3.0	17.2
198	129	Burtonwd Brw	169	...	4.7	3.5	14.1
181	75	Eldridge P 'A'▲	160	...	...	2.8	22.2
70½	50	Fosters Brewing	59½	-½	...	4.9	69.7
493	338	Fullr Sm 'A'▲	451	-4	7.5	2.1	18.9
506	373	Grand Met	469 †	-7	...	3.5	20.4
511	347	Greenalls Grp	440	-2	...	3.5	14.9
584	504	Greene King	505	+1	...	3.1	14.1
542	398	Guinness	495	+1	...	3.4	∞
281	230	Hardy Hansn	255	...	...	4.2	13.6
160	105	Heavitree▲	160	...	...	2.8	14.5
457	255	Highland Dist	426	+1	...	1.9	21.2
3225	2538	Holt J	3150	...	42.0	1.7	20.5
186	118	Macallan-Glen	147	+1	4.3	3.7	33.0
465	365	Macdn Martn 'A'	445	...	...	2.5	21.2
246	164	Mansfield	201	...	...	2.5	14.4
302	231	Marston Thmp	275	...	...	2.5	15.3
595	288½	Matthew Clark	566 †	+1	...	4.0	32.4
300	125	Merrydwn W	151	...	7.0	5.8	15.5
580	455	Morland	500	...	...	2.4	17.2
12	6½	Panmounts▲	9½	...	...	1.9	17.6
287	145	Regent Inns	251 †	...	...	2.0	28.5
1521½	753½	SA Breweries	1369½	+28½	...	2.0	22.6
591	393	Scot & New	536	-7	...	4.0	16.4
225	148	Taunton Cider	150	+1	6.2	5.2	11.7
306	213	Vaux Group	287	+1	...	4.1	18.5
409½	216	Wetherspoon JD	364 ‡	-1	...	2.0	28.3
617	435	Whitbread	540	-11	...	4.2	13.0
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	509	+1	...	3.1	14.3
528	475	Young 'A'	528	...	14.7	3.5	21.8

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
205	73	Abbey	185	...	...	1.4	30.4
27	12	Albrightons▲	24	...	...	0.5	...
200	87	Allen▲	192	...	...	3.3	43.5
164	65	Amec	153	-2	3.0	2.5	28.3
454	150	Ashtead▲	424 †	...	...	1.4	28.3
165	101	Attwoods	128	-2	...	5.0	...
363	180	BPB Ind	335	-2	...	2.8	40.1
127	57	Baggeridge Brk	110	+2	...	3.6	33.1
41	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	39	...	0.6	1.9	...
108	68	Barcom	82	+2	...	4.6	9.8
60	32½	Barlon	50½	-½	2.0	5.0	24.9
292	94	Barratt Devs	253½	-1½	...	2.0	27.2
304	152½	Bellway	260	-2	...	2.9	24.4
59	15	Belwinch	53	...	...	...	...
243	98	Beristord Intl	234	...	...	...	...
573	295½	Berkeley Gp	523	-4	...	1.5	28.2
172	45	Bett Bros	171	...	...	1.5	22.1
93	36	Blockleys	75	...	1.0	1.7	...
391	189	Blue Circle	350	-5	...	4.0	...
355	230	Boot (Henry)	335	...	6.0	2.2	18.7
117	78	Breedon PLC	102	...	4.6	5.6	25.1
154	82	Br Dredging	144	...	5.2	4.5	32.0
98	45	Brit Fittings	91	-2	1.7	2.4	...
197½	99	Bryant	172½	-2½	...	3.5	26.2
146	53	CALA	138	+1	...	2.4	...
409	200	CRH	404	-1	...	2.3	∞
70	18	Cakebread Rby	53	...	...	...	...
42	21	Costain	35½	-1	...	...	10.5
185	86½	Countryside	168 †	-3	...	3.1	37.3
120	35½	Crest Nicholson	118 †	...	...	...	...
140	27	Cussins	129	...	3.0	3.0	∞
25½	15	Edmond Hldgs	23	+½	0.3	1.6	∞
340	178	Epwin	336	-4	...	2.8	21.8
69	22	Erith	67	...	0.3	0.7	...
506	252	Eve Group▲	463 †	...	...	2.8	17.5
245	97	Freeman Gp▲	232 †	...	6.0	3.2	∞
60	38	Galliford	53 †	...	...	2.4	...
102	52	Gibbs & Dandy	101 †	...	2.5	3.1	∞
1028	695	Gleeson (MJ)	1015	...	...	1.6	17.6
173½	75	Hewden-Stuart	153½	-1	...	2.2	32.9
53	28	Hewetson	51 †	...	...	3.1	37.7
473	173	Heywd Wim	431	-9	...	4.0	28.1
145	37	Higgs & Hill	134	+1	2.5	2.3	...
38	26	How Gp	29	...	...	4.8	...
32	15	Howard Hldgs	25	-1	0.5	2.5	...
100	39	Ibstock Johnsen	88	-1	1.0	1.4	...
25	12½	Jarvis	25	...	...	...	...
428	196	Laing (J)	379	-5	9.0	3.0	15.2
164	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	146	-2	...	5.5	...
145	55	Ln Clydeside▲	140	...	...	4.3	27.5
230	100	Lovell (YJ)	140	...	...	...	...
405	240	Manders	350 †	...	10.0	3.6	∞
213½	98	Marley	187	-3	...	2.8	29.3
155	61	Marshalls	138 †	...	...	3.6	...
253	122	Maunders (J)	251	...	...	2.6	24.2
330	96	McAlpine (A)	304 †	...	...	2.7	40.0
82	23	McCarthy & S	73	+1	...	0.9	...
569	272	Meyer Int	540	+3	...	2.3	54.1
190½	62	Mowlem (J)	161	...	4.0	3.1	...
236	51	NSM	226	+1	...	...	...
53	36	Nestler▲	36	-5	...	5.0	16.8
191	106	Newman Tnks	171	...	...	4.9	22.8
382	197	Persimmon	313	-6	...	3.6	∞
26	9	Phoenix Timber	17	...	...	...	...
1800	1237½	Pochins	1800	...	29.0	2.0	25.6
198	80	Prowting	182	...	3.4	2.3	...
1039	535	RMC Gp	980	+10	...	2.6	36.8
117	75½	Raine Ind	95 †	...	...	2.8	20.6
40	18	Ramus▲	33	...	...	...	...
640	402	Redland	574	-2	25.0	3.4	33.4
86	64	Roskel	80	...	4.3	6.2	12.7
371	207	Rugby Group	324	-3	6.7	2.5	∞
68	23	Sv/Md-Rvea	56	...	...	0.6	...
189	68	Sharpe & Fisher	166	...	...	3.0	28.9
289	86½	Sheffield Insl	272 †	-1	5.4	2.5	∞
258	82	Sheriff Hldgs	253	...	...	1.9	24.1
118	66	Shorco▲	110	...	3.2	5.9	25.0
245	196	Smart (J)	225	...	...	4.7	17.0
6½	1½	Sturmin	4½	-½	...	...	...
205	100	Tarmac	201½	+6½	5.5	3.4	...
257	131	Tay Homes	253	-2	...	2.9	31.2
183	65	Taylor Woodrw	159	-7	1.0	0.8	...
760	433	Tilbury Dougls	738	-2	33.0	5.6	24.0
60	19	Torex Hirea	52 †	...	...	1.4	...
370	168	Travis Perkins	354	-13	8.0	2.9	∞
29½	5½	Trencherwood	25	+1	...	...	...
45	25	Try Group	33	...	1.0	3.8	9.3
28	21	Tudor▲	28	...	0.2	1.1	...
113	41	Vibroplant	99	...	2.5	3.2	35.6
74	20	Ward Hldgs	68	...	...	...	...
45	25	Waterhouse	45	...	...	...	...
503	360	Watts Blake	503	+3	...	3.0	21.7
225½	90	Westbury	207	-1	5.0	3.0	32.3
7	3	Wiggins	6	...	...	...	...
571	362	Wilson Bowdn	535	-4	...	2.1	37.7
259	147	Wilson (C)	212	-6	3.9	2.3	36.7
240	104	Wimpey G	209	-1	...	3.2	59.1
47	15	YRM	28	...	...	...	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
740	463	ADT	703	+2	...	...	∞
433	198	Adam & Harvey	429	...	13.0	3.8	7.9
92	56	Air London▲	71	...	3.5	6.2	12.7
62	37	African Lakes	61	...	2.0	4.1	...
178	93	Auto Sec	119	-1	...	6.4	21.3
162	84	BET Ord	130	-1	...	2.2	5.2
145	41	BNB Res	142	...	4.9	4.3	...
318	183	BPP	245	...	8.3	4.2	13.5
186	154	BSM	179	...	...	4.0	∞
285	195	Barbour Index	215 †	...	8.1	4.7	14.7
1½	0½	Black & Edge	1½	...	...	...	...
28	15	Bousted	21	...	0.7	4.2	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	198 †	-1	4.9	3.1	14.4
31	11	Broadcastle▲	31	+1	1.0	4.1	∞
76	48	Brooks Service	69	...	...	0.9	...
121	86	CRT Gp	119 †	-2	...	3.0	21.5
240	139½	Capita Group	214	+1	2.5	1.5	∞
59	31	Carlist Plc	53½	...	...	2.1	20.6
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	24½	-½	...	...	...
88	26	Christie	81	...	...	...	...
423	228	Chubb Sec	377	-2	...	1.7	23.4
132	90	Comat	125	...	...	1.5	32.3
57	6½	Corp Services	50	...	0.2	0.6	∞
97	20	Coutts Cnsltg	95	...	...	...	...
179	50	Dart	146	...	3.3	2.8	19.8
276	198	Davis Service	259	-2	...	3.9	∞
154	85	EW Facts▲	142	...	4.4	3.9	16.2
34	11	Gardiner	27 †	-½	...	3.4	12.1
334	215	Hays	296	-5	...	2.4	22.7
289	174	Hogg Robinsn	278	-2	...	3.0	20.3
70	32	Holmes Protectn	33	...	...	...	2.0
368½	127	Hutch Whamp	257½	-12	...	1.9	21.2
2696½	975	ISS B D&r	2403½	-140½	...	0.8	∞
637	475	Inchcape	555	+2	...	3.2	18.1
1035	669	Johnson Clean	1018	...	22.0	3.4	∞
12	2½	Lep	6½	...	...	...	...
375	173	Mtle Gp	375 †	+2	4.0	1.3	25.9
1284½	893½	Manpower	1284½	...	...	...	...
78½	40½	Michael Page	76	...	1.8	3.0	32.3
279	108	Pennas▲	109	...	8.0	9.2	4.1
5½	2	Prime People▲	4½	...	...	...	...
142	57	Proudfoot	68	...	...	27.6	3.8
423	337	RCO	402 †	...	15.2	4.7	13.5
118	86	REA	106	...	2.0	2.4	...
127	43	Reed Executive	123	-1	...	...	...
158	105	Reliance Sec▲	126	...	4.5	4.5	33.0
279	178	Rentokil	241	-7½	2.8	1.5	∞
368	220	Rolfe & Nolan	323	...	...	2.9	22.2
390	260½	Salvesen (C)	265	-4	...	3.8	17.5
58	26	Scott Pickford▲	54	...	0.8	1.9	17.2
17½	5	Select Appt▲	14½	...	...	...	...
1495	695	Serco Gp	1438 †	-32	17.0	1.5	∞
352	81	Sherwd Cmp▲	81	...	...	10.8	2.4
130	90	Sketchley	114	...	...	3.3	26.1
393	310	Warner Howrd	335	...	6.6	2.5	17.5
45	25	Welpac	25	...	...	...	...
30½	14	Wills Gp	29 †	...	...	1.8	20.3

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
280	210	Allied Colloids	276	+4	...	2.0	25.4
1090	613	Amersham	1080	+29	...	1.6	31.4
7	1½	Anglo Utd	3½	...	...	...	...
£125½	8325	BASF DM	£123½	+3½	...	3.6	...
373	199	BTP	313	-8	...	3.8	25.1
£150½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£146½	-57½	...	3.0	...
185	105	Blagden	155	...	6.5	5.2	16.7
165	93	Brent Chems	110	+3	...	4.6	...
530	340	Br Bio-Tech	460	+10	...	...	...
28	5	Caird Gp	10½	-½	...	...	39.2
199	126	Canning (W)	173	+1	7.2	5.3	19.8
608	421	Courtaulds	580	-7	...	3.2	14.0
394	223	Croda	378	-1	...	2.6	21.7
149	105	Doeflex	129	...	4.6	4.5	0.9
282	175	Ellis & Everard	248 †	-1	...	3.7	20.8
42½	19½	Euro Colour	41	+1½	0.8	2.7	19.6
351	259	Halstead (J)	340	...	...	2.4	16.8
241	150	Hickson	207	+2	...	4.8	19.2
£129½	8850	Hoechst	£129½	+112½	...	2.8	...
230	157	Holliday Chem	209 †	-1	4.0	2.4	∞
815	608	ICI	787 †	...	...	4.4	59.1
843	576	Laporte	799	-5	...	3.3	19.7
248	181	Leigh	215	-3	...	4.6	18.9
97½	35	MTM	81½	-½	...	...	...
2400	1462½	Norsk Hydro	2271½	-34½	...	1.4	∞
635	370	Paterson Zoch	585	...	...	2.7	15.3
585	380	-do- 'A'	554	...	...	2.9	14.5
286	193	Plysu	243	...	...	3.6	20.7
333	173	Porvair	333 †	+16	4.2	1.6	∞
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	65	...	...	...	...

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	65	...	...	5.8	...
248	173	Allders	237	+1	...	3.2	17.7
410	257	Argos Plc	355	...	...	2.5	30.3
25	8	Ashley Group	9	...	...	2.6	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	88½	+½	0.1	0.1	...
357	278	Asprey	331	-4	5.2	2.0	21.3
199	94	Austin Reed	185	...	...	1.7	...
168	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	155	...	...	4.9	15.6
150	94	Bentalls	130	...	1.9	1.7	...
278	125	Betterware	133	-3	...	2.0	15.9
47	22	Blacks Lels	41	...	2.2	6.9	...
261½	133	Body Shop	222	+2	...	1.0	28.0
16½	2½	Brown & Jacksn	3½	...	...	...	...
491	318	Brown (N)	498	+10	...	2.0	26.9
87½	51	Burton	54½	+½	...	4.6	...
245	126	Cantors	197 †	...	...	2.5	27.4
530	295	Church	438	...	13.0	3.8	∞
183	97	Clinton Cards	170	...	4.3	3.2	20.5
287	212	Coats Viyella	255	-5	...	4.0	19.2
120	78	Colourvision▲	82	...	5.6	8.5	14.7
181	154	City Casuals	166	...	...	3.1	15.4
935	374	Courts Furnish	875 †	...	5.6	0.8	11.0
210	115	Crown Eyes▲	195	...	7.5	4.8	13.3
137	89	Dairy Farm Intl	97½	-6½	...	4.0	∞
109½	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	106½	-½	0.8	0.9	34.2
293	189	Dixons Grp	211	-3	...	3.7	...
21	8	ERA Gp	10	...	...	...	...
580	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	...	16.0	3.5	19.9
284	71	Emess Furn	268 †	...	...	1.8	42.9
273	203	Etam	236	+4	7.0	3.7	21.6
608	499	Fine Art Dev	514	-3	13.0	3.2	16.7
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	50	...	...	...	...
713	498	Forminster	708	...	14.5	2.6	12.0
180	34	French Conn▲	132	...	...	...	...
74	43	Gens SR	70	...	...	4.1	21.5
100	23	Goldsmiths Gp	99	...	0.3	0.4	...
659	334	GUS	592 †	-18	...	2.6	17.4
40	21	Hampden Grp▲	25	...	...	5.0	...
277	30	Harstone	67	...	...	...	...
39½	20	Helene Plc	28	...	2.0	9.0	13.2
130	29	Heritage▲	90	...	...	...	...
91	35	Honeysuckle▲	82 †	...	...	3.8	12.0
211	63	Jacques Vert	191 †	...	...	2.3	14.6
783	496	Kingfisher	599	-14	...	2.9	20.3
88	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	76 †	...	4.0	6.6	∞
685	495	Liberty	535	-5	7.2	1.7	63.0
380	241	Lloyds Chem	340 †	-7	...	2.9	11.3
184	120	MFI	168½	-½	...	2.8	76.6
461½	311	Marks Spencer	417	-2	...	2.5	21.3
680	445	Menzies (John)	651 †	-2	...	2.1	77.0
286	135	Moss Bros	284	...	5.5	2.4	33.4
251	139½	Next	223	+½	3.5	2.0	26.6
50	15	Oliver (G)	50	+2	...	...	...
338	197	Ortiflame Intl	277	...	...	4.4	13.6
63	34	Pentos	36½	-½	0.8	2.7	7.6
313	185	QS Hldgs	264	...	5.1	2.5	18.8
69½	20½	Rhino Grp▲	40	...	0.5	1.6	∞
209	120	Rosebys	200	-5	4.6	3.0	∞
181	135	Sherwood Gp	151	-19	...	2.2	13.6
132	93	Sears	119½	...	...	3.7	48.1
41½	11	Signet Group	37½	...	...	...	...
545	400	Smith WH 'A'	524 †	+3	...	3.6	16.9
127	83	-do- B	120½	...	...	3.1	19.4
21	4½	Specialeyes▲	14	+3	...	...	...
252	176	Storehouse	230	-6	...	3.8	21.8
198	146	T & S Stores	185	...	6.0	4.1	13.8
173	71	Tie Rack	146	...	1.0	0.9	23.9
265	160	Time Products	251	...	7.7	3.9	21.7
132	63	Usher (Frank)▲	123 †	-1	6.0	6.1	13.3
488	302	Vendome	428	+12	...	1.8	19.9
45	27	Vivat	41	+1	1.2	3.9	∞
87	42	WEW Group	52½	-½	...	3.2	38.7
49	34	Wensum▲	42	...	1.8	5.6	...
129	76	Wickes	118	...	...	1.1	28.1
89	45	Wld of Leather▲	89	...	...	...	...
195	142	Wyevale	179 †	...	4.4	3.1	∞
4	2	Xtra-vision▲	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	181	+1	...	3.5	18.2
283	223	Arale	283	...	...	3.1	20.4
540	385	Admiral	540	...	6.3	1.5	∞
190	104	Alba	190 †	...	...	3.2	21.6
40	19½	Alphameric	39	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	38½	+½	...	1.6	...
128	61	App Holo▲	98	...	...	...	...
43	9½	Arlen	33	...	...	...	...
94½	39½	ASEC	89	+½	...	0.4	...
271	230	Azlan	264	...	...	1.4	31.4
293	224	Beales Hunter	275	...	...	4.3	17.0
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2½ #	...	...	...	...
473	319	BICC	433	-8	...	5.7	30.1
558	408	Blick	515 †	...	...	2.5	19.0
1700	900	Borland▲	937½	...	...	...	...
384	270	Bowthorpe	349	-1	...	2.5	23.2
489½	376	BT	411½	-4½	...	4.9	19.9
372½	292	BT P/P	293	-4	...	4.9	19.5
20	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	17½	...	0.1	0.7	...
160	48	Burnfield	77 †	-1	...	4.1	59.9
545	334½	Cable Wireless	441	-11	...	2.2	23.1
39½	11½	Chloride	34½	-½	...	...	...
276	229	CML Micro	273	...	4.7	2.2	19.8
181	74	Compr People	181	...	1.5	1.0	∞
202	108½	Cray Elect	178 †	-1	...	1.2	17.3
447	243	Critchley	437	-2	...	1.4	25.2
560	414	Delta	517	+1	...	3.6	∞
580	285	Denmans Ele	575	...	...	1.4	18.5
620	395	Domino	480 †	-11	...	2.1	20.6
77	48	Dowding Mills	73	...	...	4.3	31.3
1633	865	Druck▲	1563	-45	10.3	0.8	31.4
599	358	Electrocompnts	532	-1	...	2.0	29.4
236½	159½	El Data Prc	190 ‡	...	...	1.2	16.2
175	43	Electron House	153 †	...	...	2.2	21.9
35	10½	Emess	33½	+1	0.1	0.4	∞
810	442	Eurotherm	804 †	-4	...	1.5	27.3
211	108	FKI	211	+1	...	2.0	30.9
656	340	Farnell Elect	585½	-6½	...	1.4	31.0
91	33	Feedback▲	64	...	...	3.9	8.7
336	101	First Tech	309	...	...	0.8	25.7
220	81	Forward Gp▲	262	...	4.0	1.9	18.5
30	13½	Forward Tech	27½	-2	0.2	1.7	∞
367½	264	GEC	306½ †	-6½	10.4	4.3	15.2
199	132	Graseby	175	-1	...	4.8	∞
14½	7½	Graystone	13½	...	...	...	...
52	35	Hilclare▲	43	...	0.5	1.5	...
193	118	Ind Control	167	...	...	3.5	14.8
388	320	Jones Stroud	358 †	...	...	3.1	14.4
138	26	Kalamazoo	138	+1	2.7	2.4	32.1
19	8	Kembrey	10½	...	0.1	1.8	...
396	260	Kenwood App	370	-3	...	2.6	20.8
298	47	Kewill Sys▲	261	+1	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	133	-4	6.0	5.6	∞
60	16	Laser-Scan▲	25	...	...	...	...
365	95	LBMS▲	96	...	0.7	1.0	13.5
300	205	Lec Refrig	275	...	9.0	4.1	...
170	127	Life Sciences	132 †	-1	3.9	3.7	∞
314	165	Logica	306	...	...	1.7	35.1
55	44	LPA Ind▲	47	...	...	6.5	...
228	162	MR Data Mngmt	211 †	-1	...	3.3	23.5
723	523	Macro 4	665 †	-3	...	3.7	20.0
281	175½	Menvier-Swn▲	224 †	...	...	2.2	19.5
3013	903	Micro Focus	968	+13	...	...	9.3
222	144	Microgen	150 †	...	...	6.0	15.1
38½	23½	Microvitec▲	36½	-½	...	...	...
559	357	Misys	526 †	-2	...	1.8	19.2
584	98	Mitel	369	-7	...	...	...
178	108	MMT Comp▲	173	...	...	2.9	23.6
52	16	Molynx	24	...	1.3	6.8	...
285	202	MTL Instr	283 †	...	4.1	1.8	∞
165	103	Multitone Elect	141 †	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
148	58	Murray Ent	131	...	...	...	...
3009½	2412½	NYNEX	2478½	-3½	...	...	...
188	120	Neotronics	120	...	...	2.7	20.9
65	62	Newmark (L)	55	...	...	...	...
369	58	Norbain▲	369	...	...	0.5	28.4
75	20	Northamber	58	...	0.6	1.3	...
15½	5	Oceonics	8	...	...	...	...
358	195	Oxford Inst	344 †	-4	4.6	1.7	23.7
87	29	P & P	78	...	...	3.4	21.4
98	55	Peek	89	-1	3.4	4.9	∞
235	115	Pegasus▲	200	-1	5.0	3.1	...
£104½	9000	Philips Fn 4%	£100	-450	...	5.8	...
1943½	725	-do- Lmp Ov	1928½	-15½	...	0.9	∞
476	211	Phonelink▲	438	+3	...	...	...
340	171½	Pilco	340 †	...	...	1.6	28.5
330	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	330 †	...	...	1.6	27.7
96	63	Plasmec▲	77	...	3.0	4.9	6.5
121	76	Pressac	113	...	...	2.8	23.9
261	81	Psion▲	235	...	2.5	1.3	62.4
261	147	Racal Elect	218	-4	4.2	2.4	13.0
70	33	Radamec	46	-1	...	4.1	9.8
70	24	Radius▲	32	...	0.4	1.8	∞
118	61	Real Time▲	112	-3	...	3.3	23.0
629	367	Sage Gp	540	...	...	2.3	16.6
350	222	Sanderson Elec	332	-3	9.9	3.7	14.2
89	49	Scantronic	85	-1	3.1	4.7	23.3
211	117	Scholes Grp	211	...	...	3.0	21.7
403	220	Sema Gp	394	...	3.1	1.0	∞
275	235	Servomex	270	...	5.9	2.7	20.4
49	26	Silverthines	44	...	...	2.8	...
94	37	Soundtracks▲	85 †	...	...	3.5	21.3
2962½	1757½	TDK	2812½	-18½	...	1.1	33.0
27	4½	TDS Circuits▲	12½	...	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	141 †	-1	1.0	0.9	∞
292	178	Telspec	261	-12	...	1.2	32.8
1154	809	THORN EMI	1122	-22	...	3.6	26.0
186	96	Thorpe FW	186	...	...	1.8	21.7
103	23	Total Systems▲	35	...	1.5	5.4	6.2
303	186	Tunstall	295	...	...	1.5	21.1
324	164	Unitech	314 †	+3	...	2.5	33.4
16	6	Verity	13½	...	...	...	...
35	22	Vistec▲	30	-½	0.3	1.6	17.7
637	367	Vodafone	551	-14	...	1.7	24.0
483	368	Volex	470	...	18.1	4.8	19.3
26	11	Western Selectn	25	...	0.2	1.2	...
335	223	Wholesale Ftgs	335 †	...	11.7	4.4	35.6

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
717	380	East Midlands	608 †	-5	...	4.2	10.8
725½	390	Eastern Elect	630 †	-2	...	4.0	12.0
480½	304	Hydro-Elect	399 †	-9½	...	4.1	12.6
733½	404	London Elect	609	-4	...	4.4	11.5
850	458	Manweb	723	-5	...	3.8	9.0
767	424½	Midlands Elec	628 †	-4	...	4.2	9.9
510	273	National Powr	470	-6	...	2.9	11.6
801	440	Northern Elec	673 †	+4	...	4.2	8.8
301	100	Nthn Ireland	280 †	-3	...	3.1	13.4
806	439	Norweb	653	-4	20.8	4.0	9.4
582	273	PowerGen	563	-3	...	2.5	14.8
487	285	Scottish Power	386	-8	...	3.7	14.5
435	218	Seeboard	341	-1	...	3.8	10.7
825	469	Sth Wales	680	-13	...	4.2	10.6
743	426	Sth Western	635 †	-2	...	4.2	9.4
745½	406	Southern Elec	636 †	-6	...	4.1	8.4
729½	455	Yorkshire Elec	633 †	-7	...	4.2	11.9

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	30	Aitken Hume	57	...	1.0	2.2	12.1
165	47	BWD▲	136 †	+1	4.0	3.7	21.2
118	26	Bahic Plc	104	...	...	1.8	∞
215	133	Biotec Inv	207	-1	...	...	...
757	413	Caledonia	672	+2	...	2.9	25.0
2450	1075	Camellia	2450	...	...	1.5	6.2
363	343	Candover	335	-2	11.0	4.2	∞
465	155	Govett	420 †	-2	...	4.5	8.6

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
250	125	Ivory Sime	225	+4	...	3.9	19.4
428	150	Johnson Fry	320	-8	...	1.3	...
245	154	Lon Forfaiting▲	213 †	...	9.3	5.5	∞
87	47	Manakin	79	...	...	...	...
25½	3½	Nat Home Loan	18½	...	...	...	0.4
58	40	Newmarket	58	...	...	...	...
365	246	Rathbone Brs	324	...	6.5	2.5	19.7
28½	17	Rutland Tst	28	...	...	3.6	16.6
400	253	S & U	350	...	10.2	3.6	13.0
114	48	Singer & Fried	100	...	...	3.8	12.6
1260	713	Sothebys	1248	-12	...	1.3	...
186	113	SJP Capital	149	-1	3.0	2.5	61.5
224	183	Towry Law	220 †	-1	...	2.6	21.0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2550½	1487½	Amer Express	2025	-18½	...	...	...
229	166	Gartmore	195	...	...	2.6	∞
1208	835	Henderson Ad	1033	-5	...	5.1	23.8
251½	92	Invesco	213	+½	...	1.8	...
317	164	Jardine Strat	245½	-6½	...	3.2	10.2
322	154	MAI	293	-3	...	3.0	15.8
770	389	MAM	645	-5	16.0	3.1	16.1
1263	633	M & G	1019	-15	...	3.1	21.3
496	109	Smith New Ct	412	...	...	2.1	4.0
87	45	Trio Hldgs	51	...	2.5	6.1	∞

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
587	456	AB Food	599	+2	...	3.4	11.6
77½	46½	ASDA Group	58 †	-1½	1.6	3.6	...
368	170	Acatos & Hutch	343 †	...	...	2.9	12.6
80	55	Albert Fisher	64	+1	...	7.3	14.2
407	240	Argyll	256	+3	...	5.6	9.2
270	160	Banks (S C)	260 †	...	9.0	4.3	9.9
402	305	Barr (AG)	329 †	...	6.5	2.5	∞
85	56	Bensons Crsp▲	66 †	-4	2.8	5.4	∞
481	357	Booker	416	+1	...	6.5	36.1
56½	35	Borthwicks	53½	-2	...	2.8	66.5
505	430	Brake Bros	480	-3	6.3	1.7	20.0
51	37	Budgen	38 †	...	...	4.3	11.5
545	407	Cadbury-Schw	499 †	-4	...	3.6	16.2
232	78	Carrs Milling	204	...	...	2.6	14.9
196	133	Cranswick	145	...	...	6.9	13.7
22	9½	Cullens	15	...	0.5	4.2	43.1
384	115	Dalepak	116 †	...	...	5.4	33.8
543	424	Dalgety	454	-4	...	5.8	13.0
87	27	Daniels S	82	-5	...	0.5	∞
294	191	Devro	255	...	...	2.7	24.2
134	60	Everest	62	+2	...	7.6	11.6
392	269	Ferepak	392	...	5.9	1.9	24.1
10	3	Farmingford	8	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	80	-2	...	6.5	26.6
125	78	Fyffes	100 †	...	...	1.8	17.1
483	256	Geest	266	+4	8.1	3.8	12.0
20½	7	Global▲	19	...	0.5	3.3	29.0
68	43	Grand Central	51	...	0.8	2.0	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	156	+1	...	5.2	8.8
196½	131	Hillsdown	173	+2	...	6.6	12.8
250	146	Iceland Group	158	-2	...	2.8	10.0
131	92	JLI Group	110	...	...	5.3	12.2
853	542	Kwik Save	602	-3	...	3.8	10.8
262	144	Low (Wm)	156	-1	...	6.7	5.5
113	41	Matthews (B)	104	...	2.3	2.8	68.1
19½	11	Merchant Retail	15	...	0.9	7.0	30.7
174	84	Morrison (W)	117½	+1	...	0.9	15.3
246	177	Nichols (JN)	243	...	5.7	3.0	∞
291	207½	Nthn Foods	212	-5	...	5.0	10.4
20½	8	Nrdmbrn Fn▲	12	...	...	...	...
232	172	Nurdin Peack	225	...	...	3.5	12.5
360	205	Park Foods	357	...	...	2.3	27.5
115	58	Perkins Food	74	...	...	7.8	∞
141	47	PizzaExpress	122 †	-2½	...	0.5	25.8
9	1½	Regina Hlth▲	3½	...	...	...	...
384	342	Sainsbury J	388	+½	...	3.3	13.6
86	33	Sentry Farm▲	83	...	1.5	2.3	14.9
225	90	Sims Food	106	...	...	7.7	20.4
457½	355½	Tate & Lyle	427	-3	...	3.8	11.4
273	176	Tesco	220	-½	...	4.1	10.0
211	123	Thorntons	192 †	...	...	2.5	...
239	101	Treats▲	226 †	-1	...	2.2	18.4
434½	300	Unigate	380	+7	...	5.7	11.8
437	324	Utd Biscuits	348	-1	...	5.7	∞
24½	18½	Usborne	19	...	...	3.5	14.0
422	248	Watson & Phil	394	...	...	4.5	16.5
59	30½	West Trust	43 †	...	...	7.8	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk H▲	26	...	...	...	...
177	163	Alpha Airpts	175	-2	...	2.9	20.0
94	77	City Centre Rest	87½	-½	1.5	2.2	21.1
285	170	Forte	260	+3	...	3.6	20.4
215	148	Friendly Hotels	184	...	...	3.9	35.8
166½	87	Jurys Hotel	150½	-½	...	4.2	12.2
222½	142	Ladbroke	207 †	-½	...	3.6	57.4
109½	59	Mandarin Orntl	83½	-8½	...	4.0	20.7
55	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
31	11½	Ryan Hotels II	23½	...	...	5.5	...
1115	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1115	+35	7.0	0.8	...
92½	34½	Stakis	89½	+1	1.0	1.4	∞

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	60	...	...	18.3	3.7
616	455	AAH	486 †	-7	...	4.3	16.2
185	123	AIM	170 †	-1	...	5.5	20.8
138	88	APV	129	-1	...	5.2	...
238	81	ASW	194 †	...	...	3.9	∞
202	118	Adwest	186	...	...	4.8	17.9
29	10	Aerospace Eng	17 †	-½	...	5.5	...
312	249	Airsprung	280	-2	...	2.1	17.9
211	113	Alendra W	210	...	4.1	2.4	33.2
13½	6½	Allied Radio	11	...	...	...	...
330	207½	Alumasc	330 †	...	...	2.3	18.4
72½	17	Alvis	72 †	...	...	1.7	13.0
745	345	Amber Ind	745	...	...	3.2	17.1
68	45	Amberley Gp▲	53	-2	1.0	2.4	...
107	75	Anagen	76	...	...	...	...
145	65	Andrews Sykes	95	...	...	3.9	...
1785	703	Antofagasta	1575	-10	...	1.3	29.1
62	37	Armour	57½	...	...	3.7	13.3
175	143	Ash & Lacy	175	...	6.4	4.6	17.9
5	2½	Ass Br Eng	3	...	...	1.3	65.4
625	434	Avon Rubber	602	-2	...	3.4	21.2
300	168	Assoc Nursng▲	290	...	...	0.4	17.8
687½	488	Atlas Equip	553	...	...	5.0	13.9
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	78	...	...	...	...
224	147	BBA	202 †	+1	...	4.6	...
122	78	BLP Group▲	122	...	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	40½	-1	...	...	...
770	590	BOC	721	-5	...	4.0	28.4
86½	50	BSG	79½	-½	...	5.0	27.7
578	333	BSS Group	542	...	...	4.0	30.3
409½	318	BTR	384 †	-3	...	4.8	20.2
221	147	BWI	174	-1	...	4.8	16.1
50	25½	Babcock	40	+1½	...	3.4	23.9
11	4½	Bailey (CH)	8½	...	...	...	...
290	228	Baird (Wm)	245	-5	8.9	4.5	17.0
531½	393½	Barlow	487½	+18½	...	6.7	8.9
81	48	Baynes (Charles)	70	-1	...	2.8	∞
28½	14	Bearing Power	23	...	...	4.1	14.6
300	23	Beaufort	28	...	...	...	...
35	15	Bedford (W)▲	35	...	...	...	...
27½	14½	Benson Group	15 †	...	...	2.5	11.4
707	285	Bespak	310	+2	10.2	4.1	9.7
157	55	Bibby (J)	83	-2	...	3.0	...
312	129	Billam (J)	213	...	5.3	3.2	∞
41	21½	Bilsom Barsea▲	31	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Bimec Ind	7½	...	...	...	...
282	118½	Birkby	280	...	3.7	1.7	14.6
45	29	Black Arrow	43	...	2.1	6.1	13.5
283	136	Black (Peter)	265 †	-1	3.8	1.8	20.7
865	129	Bluebird Toys▲	818	+3	16.0	2.5	∞
329	230	Bodycote	322	...	...	2.0	20.6
40	23	Bogod 'A'	36	...	0.7	2.4	13.4
609	416	Boots	536	-11½	...	3.2	21.2
61	39	Booth Inds	44	...	...	...	...
524	402	Bowater	490	-3	...	3.0	20.5
1681½	1187½	Bowater Inc	1528½	-9½	...	...	...
297	199	Boxmore Intl▲	289 ‡	...	4.0	1.7	∞
20	12½	Brasway	17	...	...	3.8	...
333	204	Brammer	325	...	13.0	5.0	24.2
31	12	Bridgend Gp	24	...	0.4	...	...
163	64	Bridon	156	...	...	3.2	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	78	...	...	4.0	...
57½	31	Brierley Inv	52½	+1½	...	6.6	12.7
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	235	...	...	4.3	19.8
124	42	Br Bloodstock▲	100	...	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	476	...	11.5	3.1	∞
147½	54	Br Steel	145½	-½	...	1.3	...
195	115	Br Thornton	135	+4	...	4.6	14.0
298	215	Br Vita	290	+1	...	3.2	26.8
18½	5½	Britton Grp	15½	-½	...	1.5	∞
931½	555	Broken Hill	828½	-1	...	2.2	37.5
125	78	Bromsgrve Ind	110 †	...	...	5.0	14.3
18½	6½	Brooke Tool	18½	...	...	...	...
73	36	Brown & Tawse	47	...	...	...	...
186	91	Bullough	166 †	+1	...	4.6	72.6
24	11½	Business Tech▲	13	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	18	-2	0.5	4.0	17.3
54	11	Campbell & Arm	50	+5	...	...	...
39	6½	Cannon St	33	+½	...	...	...
475	388	Cantab Pharms	462	...	...	...	...
273	205	Cape	273	...	...	4.8	18.5
455	294	Caradon	396	-1	...	2.8	32.0
215½	128	-do- pf	189½	-3	7.2	4.8	...
293	178	Carclo Eng	275	...	...	4.0	20.4
10	7	Care UK	7½	...	...	...	...
2887½	2025	Carnaud Mtl	2237½	-37½	...	2.8	∞
104	68	Cassidy Bros▲	92 †	...	...	3.3	22.3
251	158	Castings	251	...	4.6	2.3	17.7
71	47	Cathay Intl	47	...	...	...	...
250	213	Celltech	221	+2	...	...	...
105	113	Chamberlin Hill	185	...	6.5	4.4	11.6
812	605	Charter	751	-7	...	3.7	11.5
360	220	Chemring	323	...	...	3.5	16.7
92	45	Chieftain Gp▲	58	...	...	7.8	11.2
47	19½	Chillington	45	...	1.0	2.8	...
246	144	Christies Int	228	...	...	1.1	∞
80	34	Clayhithe	63	...	...	5.0	...
150	55	Clayton Son	127	...	...	...	...
455	295	Cohen (A)	453	...	3.4	0.9	...
297	179	Community H	285 †	...	...	3.2	16.2
263	168½	Concentric	238	...	...	3.1	19.7
310	120	Cook (Wm)	280	-1	6.0	2.6	17.7
285	182	Cookson	278	-4	...	2.9	∞
110	38	Copymore▲	108 †	...	4.0	4.6	∞
238	130	Crowd Pkr 'A'	161 †	...	...	4.4	21.8
178	92	Cosalt	137	...	...	4.9	...
285	150	Creighton Nls	275	...	7.4	3.4	19.7
48	27	CressaCare	40	...	0.6	2.0	34.6
4075	2903½	Dana	3856½	+6½	...	...	...
388	78½	Danka Bs Sys	364	-9	...	0.5	33.6
296	193	David Brown	291	...	...	2.6	20.6
1021	632	De La Rue	1021	+22	...	2.3	24.6
41	16	Dinkie Heel	41	...	1.1	3.4	32.6
628	391	Diploma	568	-1	...	2.6	22.8
97	50	Dobson Park	88	...	...	5.3	20.0
134	92	Dyson (J&J)	119 †	...	5.0	5.3	21.9
97	57	-do- 'A'	87 †	...	5.0	7.2	16.0
16½	8	EFG	13	...	...	...	...
442	398	EIS	439	...	...	3.4	17.3
28	15	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
53	19	Eleco	48	...	...	...	...
3534½	1750	Electrolux 'B'	3389½	-96½	...	1.5	∞
91	43	Elliott (B)	88	...	...	...	...
548	394	Eng China Cl	516	-2	...	5.0	30.0
146	111	Environmed	132 #	...	...	...	...
3962½	1550	Ericsson 'B'	3065½	-62½	...	1.2	∞
86	32	Eurocopy	76 †	...	...	2.8	22.4
87	47	Expamet	80	+1	...	4.0	∞
778	499	Fairey Group	761	-3	11.8	2.0	∞
145	47	Fenner	140	...	...	...	...
103	32	Ferraris Group	103	...	...	2.4	15.3
29	8	Ferrum	8	...	1.4	21.9	5.6
78	28	Fife Indmar	73 †	+1	2.7	4.7	∞
251	102	Fisons	132	-1½	...	4.1	...
60	29	Fitzwilton	50 †	...	...	8.8	...
288	215	Flogas	278 †	...	...	3.8	12.7
51	33	Folkes Group nv	49	...	1.5	3.8	27.8
126	56	French (Thomas)	120 †	-2	...	3.8	25.7
264	162	Frost Group	235	...	...	2.4	30.4
88	70	GEI Int	87	...	...	3.5	...
601½	420½	GKN	558½	-½	...	4.6	36.3
69	42	GR Hldgs	64	...	...	3.5	...
134	79	Garton Eng	124	...	4.1	4.2	...
191	103	Gestetner	160 †	-9	...	2.3	...
68	23	Gieves	60	-1	...	...	43.4
801	509	Glaxo	686½	-5½	...	4.4	16.2
44½	16	Glenchewton	38	...	...	...	...
404	245	Glynwed	380	-3½	...	3.9	27.3
191	66	Goode Durrant	188	-1	...	3.6	...
185	102	Grampian Hd	170	...	5.5	4.0	28.5
598	341	Granada	562 †	-4	...	1.9	22.2
487	301	Great Sthrn▲	486	...	11.4	2.0	20.0
117	73	Green (Ernst)▲	83	...	...	10.9	12.1
15½	8½	Greenacres	14½	...	...	2.6	14.1
17	5	Guardian Grp▲	6 #	...	...	...	...
84½	29½	Haden MacLn	74 †	-½	...	3.4	∞
102	44	Hadleigh Inds▲	97	...	1.0	1.3	...
80	31	Halkin Hldgs	70	...	...	...	54.6
320	115	Hall Eng	298	-1	9.5	4.0	∞
256	161	Halma	227	...	...	1.2	28.4
71	30	Hampson Ind	62	+2	1.2	3.4	20.5
302	222	Hanson	251½	-2½	...	5.1	28.1
221	146	Harris (Philip)	150	...	...	5.7	9.1
220	147	Harrisn Crsfld	210	...	9.0	5.4	30.3
171	38	Havelock Euro	149	...	...	...	...
51	20	Hay (Norman)	45	...	...	...	...
50	17	Headway	41	...	...	2.1	...
511	301	Hepworth	468	-2	14.8	4.0	20.2
238	154	Hewitt (J)	183	...	3.2	2.2	14.3
73	15	High-Point	58	...	0.5	1.1	...
203	112½	Hill & Smith	192 †	...	...	4.0	20.1
28	6½	Hobson▲	27 #	...	...	...	...
191	87	Holden Tech▲	191	...	6.0	3.9	24.9
63	30	Hopkinsons	60	...	0.9	1.9	45.4
216	133	Hornby▲	212	...	9.0	5.3	20.0
103	54½	Howden	99	-1	...	2.9	15.6
280	246	Hozelock	249	...	...	3.0	17.7
265	173	Hunting	242	-3	...	5.2	20.4
513	369½	Huntigh Tec▲	488	...	...	1.0	32.3
379	247	IMI	347	-6	...	3.6	29.1
136	90	ISA Intl	136	...	1.6	1.5	∞
205	131	Intercare Gp▲	138 †	...	...	3.2	13.2
325	235	Isotron	323	...	4.4	1.7	18.0
710	360	Jardine Math	458½	-30½	...	2.7	16.6
610	425	Johnson Math	574	+3	...	2.3	22.4
64	35½	Johnson & FB	44½	...	...	3.8	42.4
177	104	Johnston	152	...	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	28	...	...	...	...
36	18	Jourdan (T)	29	...	0.7	3.2	...
187½	73	Kalon	177½	+½	...	3.0	∞
297	195	Kelsey Ind	260	...	8.0	3.8	∞
805	465	Kenshaw (A)	755 †	...	...	4.5	38.9
276	75	Kleeneze	224 †	+7	...	0.6	72.5
422	266	Laird	377	-3	...	3.5	18.6
170	103	Lilleshall	158 †	...	...	3.6	17.2
225	97	Lincat▲	225	...	...	3.3	15.9
51	4½	Lincoln Hse▲	40	...	...	...	20.3
148	76	Linread	148	+8	3.9	3.4	∞
355	170	Linton Park	346	...	...	5.1	12.5
15½	9½	Lionheart	12½	-½	0.3	3.0	∞
22½	15	Locker (T) A	17½	...	0.8	6.1	25.5
274	97	Lon Ind	142	...	6.2	5.5	...
175½	70	Lonrho	153 †	-3½	...	3.3	75.4
431	269	Low & Bonar	416	+1	...	3.1	∞
49	14½	ML Hldgs	44	...	...	...	...
67	27	MS Intl	61	...	...	5.1	37.4
70	39	MY Holdings	58 †	...	...	2.7	15.3
271	168	Macfarlane	238	...	...	1.8	27.0
539	379	McKechnie	528	-1	...	3.5	25.4
127	85	McLeod Russel	113	...	...	6.7	16.7
106	63	Magnolia	99	...	0.1	0.1	15.9
162	71	Mang Bronze	161	...	...	1.9	28.6
26½	19½	Marling	22	...	...	4.8	...
231	134	Mayborn▲	186	...	5.3	3.5	14.3
64	29	Mayflower	57	...	...	1.0	47.6
236	85	Medeva	155	-4	2.7	2.2	∞
120	88	Meggitt	113½	-1	...	4.2	19.3
132	98	Metalrax	131	...	...	3.6	21.4
154	112	Mirrotect	117	-2	...	3.5	16.3
119	70	Mersec▲	119	...	...	...	...
124	29	Midsumrs	109	...	...	0.9	15.2
575	368	Molins	558	+9	...	3.5	∞
408	262	Morgan Cble	380	-2	...	4.0	20.5
217	134	Morris Ashby▲	217 †	...	5.7	3.3	16.5
51	18	Neepsend	40	...	1.0	3.1	53.7
80	34	Nestor-BNA	75	...	3.1	5.2	17.9
249	122	Nobo Gp	247	...	5.3	2.7	24.4
212½	122½	Norcros	192	-4	...	4.6	28.1
51	32	Novo Group	32	...	...	4.3	10.3
81	30	Office Elec Mac	51	...	...	...	...
64	21	OMI Intl	56½	...	...	3.9	...
175	123	PCT▲	174	...	7.2	5.2	19.8
91	36	Pacer Systems▲	75	...	...	5.9	∞
43	31	Pascoe's	36	...	...	...	...
138	87½	Pentland	92	-3	...	4.4	∞
395	272	Photo-Me	280 †	...	4.7	2.1	16.8
204	97½	Pilkington	195	...	...	1.6	...
110	68	Plansbrook	100	-1	3.4	4.4	∞
185	125	Polypipe	165 †	-3	...	1.6	21.3
42	15	Porter Chadburn	24	...	...	2.1	11.0
376	220	Powerscreen	275	+½	...	3.1	14.5
27½	16½	Prospect Inds	21½	...	...	4.7	12.3
77	33½	RPS Group▲	75	...	2.3	3.8	16.6
108	73	Radiant Metal	100	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil▲	155	...	1.0	0.8	51.9
447½	254½	Rank Org	418	-5	...	3.7	22.7
33	13	Ransomes	17	+2	...	...	...
725	532	Reckitt Colm	630	-8	...	3.3	14.5
95	50	Record	94	...	3.6	4.9	∞
7½	2½	Reeze	3½	...	...	...	...
291	131	Relyon	257 †	-2	5.2	2.5	∞
308	208	Renishaw	283 †	...	...	2.9	35.6
152	55	Renold	152	+2½	...	1.4	...
2159	1240	Reuters	2010 †	-11	...	1.6	28.0
88	24½	Rexmore	87	...	2.0	2.9	...
201	91	Ricardo Group	181	+1	...	3.9	25.6
76	58	Richard (Leics)	70	...	3.7	6.7	...
108	63	Richardson West	105	...	3.0	3.6	26.9
155	109	Ropner	155	...	8.2	6.7	22.0
152	97	-do- 'A'	152	...	8.2	6.8	21.5
38	14	Ross Gp	17½	-½	0.6	4.6	7.2
195	131½	Rotork	187	...	...	2.5	21.9
190	89	Rubicon	160 †	...	...	3.4	20.2
75	43	Russell (A)	71	...	...	0.9	...
38	15	SEP Indl	38 †	+1	0.8	2.7	∞
1337½	625	SKF 'B'	1168½	-31½	...	...	...
272	205	Scapa	238	...	...	3.0	17.7
238	179	Scholl	189	...	...	4.2	13.8
323	242	Scoda	284	+4	...	...	...
1291	917	Securicor	1200 †	+1	...	0.3	35.4
1036	562	-do- 'A'	879 †	+5	...	0.4	26.0
892	465	Security Serv	778 †	+20	...	0.9	29.6
154½	77	Senior Eng	143½	...	...	2.8	24.0
361	278	Seton Health	330	...	...	2.3	18.9
166	88	Shiloh	151	...	3.0	2.5	16.3
349	271	Sidlaw	347	-1	...	3.8	17.2
630	427	Siebe	587 †	-11	...	2.2	20.7
383	220	Silentnight	340	...	...	2.9	18.4
181	102	Sime Darby	150	...	...	3.3	16.2
142	32	Simon Eng	123	+5	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	223 †	...	...	3.9	18.0
47	35	Six Hundred	44	+1	...	4.3	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	143½	-1	...	4.4	14.3
513	373	Smithkline	401 †	-4	...	3.4	16.3
450	340	Smithkline Uts	369 †	-6	...	3.7	16.9
527½	320	Smiths Ind	493	-1	...	3.0	19.8
140	58	Sthn Bus	91	-2	...	5.1	4.7
585	265	Spandex▲	585	...	...	1.5	∞
660	300	Spear (JW)	630	...	19.0	3.9	∞
411	314	Spirax-Sarco	409	-1	...	3.8	25.7
137½	41½	Spring Ram	86½ †	-1	...	0.9	∞
220	201	Staveley	222	-2	...	4.6	13.1
242	126	Sterling Ind	236	-1	...	3.1	36.2
220	97	Suter	194 †	+2	...	5.9	17.2
611	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	447	-10½	...	2.2	∞
7	1	Sycamore	4	...	...	...	...
78	50	Sykes-Pick	51	...	3.0	7.5	9.8
178	120	Syltone	173	...	...	3.5	25.0
455	279	TI	386 †	+1	...	3.6	22.2
44	12	TLS Range▲	33	-1	0.2	0.9	...
372	211	TT Group	373	-3	...	2.2	23.0
292	201	Takare	230	-8	2.0	1.1	20.4
868	618	Takeda Chem	826½	-4½	...	0.8	15.7
68	24	Tex Hldgs	46	...	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (E)▲	97	...	...	2.2	16.7
240	150	Titmo▲	220	...	...	2.4	18.3
283	212½	Tomkins	252 †	-7	...	2.4	18.6
124	59	Trafalgar H	106 †	-4	...	3.3	...
116	61	Transfer Tech	92	-2	...	3.8	...
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	163	...	3.2	4.3	11.6
318	214	UniChem	300	-3	6.4	2.7	19.6
440	275½	Unitare	430	...	...	2.4	23.4
76	11½	Unigroup	49	...	...	...	...
1249	908	Unilever	1058	-23	25.0	3.0	∞
£118½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	7256½	-165½	...	2.9	12.0
24½	9	Utd Inds	17½ #	...	...	...	...
1093	513	VSEL	1025	-1	...	3.7	11.1
31½	6½	Verson	22½	...	...	...	...
196	95½	Vickers	178	-2	...	2.1	22.0
307	243	Victaulic	309	-1	...	3.3	∞
522	283	Vinten	520	+6	...	1.9	∞
805	427	Vosper Thorny	795	-3	...	2.6	18.4
48	33	WSP Hldgs	45	...	...	5.1	∞
525	368	Wagon Ind	518	...	...	4.2	22.8
8½	1½	Wakebourne	3½	...	...	...	19.1
114	71	Walker Greenbk	104	-1	3.1	3.2	26.5
304	201	Wassall	289	-5	3.4	1.5	∞
51	22	Watford Wdgwd	48	...	...	...	...
384	252	Weir	324	-2	...	2.3	18.3
993	604	Wellcome	627½	-3½	...	3.4	13.3
30	16	Wellman	29½	...	0.9	3.8	48.2
400	260	West Hldbure	348 †	-7	...	1.3	22.4
548	455	Whatman	542	...	9.7	2.2	18.4
353	211	Whessoe	257	...	...	4.0	12.1
111	27	Whitecroft	109	...	...	...	...
13½	4½	Whitney	12½	...	...	...	...
191	44	Wilkes (James)	162	...	3.5	...	47.4
421	295½	Williams Hldg	389	-6	...	4.2	22.1
53	17	Wilshaw	47½	-1	...	1.4	29.9
975	533	Wolseley	935	-6	...	1.9	22.6
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
46	35	Wyko	44	-1	...	1.4	...
96	38	Young (H)	80	...	...	5.2	...

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1998½	1193½	Alex & Alex	1287½	+12½	...	3.2	...
2408½	1725	Am Gen	1900	...	...	4.1	...
86	30	Archer	58	+1	...	2.2	...
165	118	Bradstock	139 †	+4	...	4.9	15.7
550	359½	Britannic	450	+16	...	3.2	...
117	96	CLM Insce	104	...	...	...	...
711	556	Com Union	582 †	+1	...	5.3	19.3
1950	1225	Dom & Gen	1950	...	...	1.6	25.7
64	18	FAI	56	+2	...	0.9	...
194	106	Fenchurch Grp	175	...	...	5.1	15.6
797	546	Gen Accident	613	-2	...	5.8	13.2
247	160	GRE	191 †	-5	...	5.0	2.6
457	293	Heath C E	378	-5	...	5.3	...
228	122	Hogg Gp	140	...	8.1	7.3	12.7
323	255	Independent Ins	293	-2	8.3	3.6	∞
215	162	JIB Group	195	+1	7.5	4.9	∞
547	408½	Legal & Gen	502	-8	...	5.1	∞
1383½	768½	Liberty Life	1334½	+6½	...	2.4	21.2
121	99	LIMIT	102	-1½	...	...	...
471	389	Lloyds Abbey	412 †	-1	...	5.5	13.2
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	294	+4	6.7	2.8	18.3
443	274	Londn & Man	384	-5	14.7	4.8	28.3
472	321	Lowndes Lmb	434	...	14.0	4.0	15.6
6743½	5256½	Marsh McLn	5612½	+75	...	3.2	...
188	139	Nelson Hurst	180	...	...	3.9	18.0
131	76	Oriel	124	...	...	5.0	...
83	50½	PWS	79 †	...	...	6.3	14.7
335	282½	Prudential	330	-2	...	4.7	21.9
404	260½	Refuge	357 †	-4	11.3	4.2	∞
350	249	Royal	277 †	-1	...	3.4	12.6
315	190	Sedgwick	215 †	+5	...	3.5	23.8
261	100	Steel Burrill	117	...	...	12.8	6.9
80	48	Sturge Hldgs	75 †	...	...	5.0	63.7
418	307	Sun Alliance	329	-3	14.2	5.4	...
95	50	Trade Indemnty	95	+1	0.5	0.7	∞
464	239	Transatlantic	422 ‡	-1	...	3.6	30.0
773	499	Utd Friendly	600	-10	15.1	3.1	36.2
245	171	Willis Corroon	234 †	+6	...	3.5	21.7
28	13½	Windsor	27	...	...	...	21.2

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2058	1548	Alliance	1917	-5	47.0	3.1	∞
161	124	BZW Conv	153	...	7.8	6.4	...
219	133½	Bankers	198½	-3	...	2.3	...
381	264	Baring Tribne	347 †	...	...	2.4	...
246	131	Berry Starq	246	...	2.2	1.1	...
120½	96½	Br Assets	104½	-2½	...	5.1	...
98	57½	Br Empire Sec	93	-1	...	1.2	...
46	14	-do- Wnts	37	...	...	...	...
234	156	Br Inv	213	-1	4.6	2.7	...
272	174	Brunner	248½	-2½	...	2.6	...
221	130	Contl Asset	207 †	-1	...	1.8	...
195	143	Derby Inc	153	...	...	12.9	...
325	195	-do- Cap	290	-10	...	...	...
100	62	Drayton Blue	92	-1	8.4	11.4	...
111	35	-do- Eng Intl	102	...	1.0	1.2	...
156	84	-do- Far East	132½	-6½	...	0.6	...
177	95	-do- Korea	156	-3	0.5	0.4	...
784	576	Dunedin Inc G	716 †	-5	26.1	4.6	∞
108	76	-do- Japan	102	-1½	...	...	...
80	34	-do- Warrants	71½	...	...	...	...
827	513	-do- Wrde	787	-4	...	1.5	...
341	222	Dundee & Lon	327	-1	...	3.4	...
360	250½	Edinburgh	317½	-5½	8.5	3.3	...
354	183	Electra Inv	315	-3	...	2.8	...
220	141	Electric Gen	203	...	3.1	1.9	...
127	85	English Scot	119 †	...	...	...	...
345	205	European Asset	331 †	-3	...	1.7	∞
172	77	Finsbury 'A'	158	...	3.0	2.4	...
343	248	Fleming Amer	319 †	-1	...	0.6	...
145	91	Fleming Chinese	93½	-4½	...	...	...
92	52	-do- Warrants	56	-3	...	...	...
267	190½	-do- Claver	229	-4	...	3.0	...
385	212	-do- Contl	359	-3	2.7	0.9	...
264	187	-do- Emrp	235 †	-3	...	2.6	...
459	213	-do- F East	350	-13	1.1	0.4	...
422	246	-do- Fledg	393½	-1½	3.0	1.0	∞
122	93	-do- Hi Inc	105 †	-1	...	5.2	...
273	136	-do- Japan	259	-6	...	0.2	...
347	250	-do- Merc	309 †	-4½	6.7	2.7	∞
347½	212	-do- Overs	309 †	-4	4.2	1.7	...
311	203	Foreign & Col	285 †	-4½	3.5	1.5	∞
148	56½	-do- Emg Mkts	116	-1	0.2	0.3	...
77	44	-do- Enterprise	70 †	-1½	0.6	1.1	∞
259	164	-do- Eurost	246	...	...	0.6	...
145	87	-do- German	129	-1	0.5	0.5	...
374	191	-do- Pacific	332	-10	...	0.8	...
192	116	-do- Smaller	185½	...	1.8	1.3	...
308	145	GT Japan	281½	-7½	...	0.6	...
199	65	Genl Cons Cap	199	+2	...	...	...
123½	96½	-do- Inc	109 †	-1	...	10.0	...
191	115	Govett Am Smlr	177	...	...	...	...
151	94	-do- Emg Mkts	116	-5	...	...	...
110	96	Govett High Inc	97	...	...	7.0	...
429	184	-do- Oriental	359	-12	0.9	0.3	...
346	207	-do- Strategy	309	-4	...	2.7	...
475	340	Greenfriar	470 †	-1	...	1.8	...
19	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
103	94	Herald	101½	-½	...	...	...
158	124	Inv Cap	138½	-1½	...	4.6	...
119	77	MS Uk Smlr	110	+1	2.8	3.2	...
243	156½	Kleinwort Cht	216½	-2½	...	3.0	...
272½	176	-do- O'seas	246½	-2½	3.4	1.7	∞
165	108	-do- Smlr	162	...	3.5	2.7	∞
826	540	Law Debenture	748	-3	18.5	3.1	...
227	164	Majedie	216	...	...	2.8	...
324	221	Merchants	293½	-3½	11.0	4.9	∞
495	450	Mercury Euro Pr	460	+1	...	...	...
3343½	1850	Merrill Lynch	2912½	-31½	...	...	...
595	383	Monks Inv Tst	537	-7	...	1.6	...
158	105	Murray Grwn Inc	145½	-½	...	3.9	...
64	23	Do Warrants	52	-1	...	...	...
148	58	Murray Ent	131	...	...	1.9	...
£290	£117½	-do- Pf 1994	£260	...	...	...	...
58	30	-do- Warrants	39	...	...	...	...
68	39	Murray Euro	62½	-½	0.2	0.6	∞
23½	4½	Do Wts	20½	...	...	...	...
303	282	Murray Income	283 †	-4	11.3	4.0	∞
395	265	-do- Intl	359 †	-5	11.6	4.0	∞
348	263	-do- Small	408	-6	...	1.1	...
103	82	-do- S/C Inc	83 †	-1	...	16.0	...
174	73	-do- S/C Cap	146	-2	...	...	...
3400	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3400 †	...	...	3.9	...
180	142½	-do- S/C DP	154	...	...	...	...
363	230	-do- Vent	338	-1	...	4.0	...
95	68	Nthrog Inc	83	...	8.7	10.4	...
404	240	O'seas Inv Tst	373	-2	...	1.1	...
647	285	Pacific Assets	473 †	-22	1.2	0.3	∞
545	187	Do Warrants	378	-23	...	...	...
9400	7650	Personal Assets	9250	...	190	2.6	...
189	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	177	-1	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Merc	115 †	...	...	10.0	∞
465	250	Robeco	449	...	...	2.8	...
463	346	Rolinco	448	...	...	1.7	...
343	234	St Andrew Inv	338 †	...	7.8	2.9	∞
183	131	Scot American	167½	-2	...	3.5	...
371	136	Scot Asian	281	-10	...	...	...
1090	225	do Warrants	798	-32	...	...	...
97½	67½	-do- Eastern	86	-2	1.5	2.3	∞
262½	183	Scottish	250½	-4	...	2.7	...
364½	179	-do- Mtge	328	-4	4.0	2.5	...
135½	71	-do- Value	129½	+½	...	1.8	...
1795	1390	Second Alliance	1655 †	-7	...	3.0	...
106	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	94½	-1½	3.2	4.3	...
170	109½	Selective Asset	175 †	-1	...	1.0	...
51½	14	Sphere Inv	46½	-½	3.4	8.8	∞
205	112	TR Far East	160 †	-7	...	3.9	...
177½	136	TR City Of Lon	153½	-4	...	3.9	...
249	180	TR Pacific	191 †	-7	0.1	0.2	∞
43½	17	TR Property	30½	-½	0.9	2.8	...
152	47	TR Tech Inv	147	-1	1.7	1.5	...
237	146	TR Smlr Cos	214	-1	...	2.2	...
412	283	Temple Bar	361 †	-5	...	4.7	...
135	69	Thrmtn Asian E	110	-3	0.5	0.6	...
101	54	Throgmorton	85 †	...	...	1.4	...
553	363	Trans Dual Cp	500	...	...	...	...
269	178	USDC Invest	255 †	...	4.5	2.2	...
129	70½	Value Inc Tst	117	...	4.0	4.3	...
257½	181	Witan	232½	-4½	...	3.1	...

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
580½	349	Airtours	502	-1	...	2.2	17.2
64	26	Ald Leis	27	-16	...	11.9	8.8
668	194	Anglia TV	660	-3	...	1.8	30.8
131	63	Baldwin	111 †	-2	...	3.0	14.6
333	192	Barr & W 'A'	331	-2	10.0	3.8	21.4
1400	930	Boosey Hwks	1300	...	22.0	2.1	19.5
205	90	Border TV▲	165	-3	3.6	2.7	13.4
16½	4	Brent Walker	4½	...	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scotts	123	...	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Int	6½	-½	...	...	...
292	44	Campari	56	...	8.7	19.5	...
430	171	Capital Radio	396	-1	...	1.8	34.7
1047	520	Carlton Comm	963 †	-2	...	2.4	22.9
307	158	Castle Comm▲	295	-4	...	1.9	19.3
3130	1615	Central TV	2925	...	39.0	1.7	31.9
163	61	Chrysalis	141 †	...	...	3.2	29.0
374	235	Compass Gp	355 ‡	-6	...	2.3	19.8
350	175	Eurocamp	256 †	...	9.7	4.8	10.6
1180	268	Euro Disney	412½	+22	...	2.8	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	3½	...	...	...	...
43½	18	Ex-Lands	36	-½	...	1.2	...
419	245	Fairline Boats	374 †	...	...	3.5	35.2
378	232	First Leisure	313 †	-8	...	2.6	21.2
478	68	Flextech▲	400	-5	0.5	0.2	...
1033	298	GWR Gp▲	963 †	-10	...	1.2	34.9
303	149	Grampian	275	-3	6.5	3.0	19.0
32	4½	Greenwich Comm▲	16	...	...	...	...
161	19	HTV Group	142	-2	1.0	0.9	∞
96	30	Hi-Tec Sports	92	...	...	3.1	...
18½	5½	Kunick	15½	...	...	...	14.6
752	405	LWT Hldgs	739	-6	...	0.8	34.2
702	327	Man Utd	690	-3	...	3.5	28.2
51	7½	Northern	48	-1	...	...	9.2
148	50	Owners Abrd	122 †	-2	3.5	3.6	∞
89	33	The Pelican Gp	84	+1	1.1	1.6	19.2
183	95	Prism Leisure▲	175	...	3.5	2.5	16.2
43	16	Quadrant Grp	38	...	...	...	...
234	132	Ransdens (H)	228 †	...	4.5	2.5	∞
628	274	Scot Radio▲	580	-5	...	2.2	24.5
574	410	Scot TV	528	...	10.3	2.5	26.0
40½	17½	SelectTV▲	33½	-1	...	...	...
117	37	Southern Radio	101	-1	...	1.5	44.7
350	164	Stanley Leisure	350 †	...	...	1.9	28.3
153	115	Sunset & Vine	150	-2	3.5	2.9	22.9
420	345½	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.7
2½	1	Ticketing▲	1½	...	...	...	...
117	75	Tottenhm Hot	81	...	...	3.1	31.0
182	74	Trans World▲	159 †	-1	1.3	1.0	58.0
760	274	Ulster TV	675	-8	12.0	2.2	20.7
149	62	Vardon	148 †	-1	1.1	1.0	∞
375	130	Yorkshire TV	329	-5	...	1.3	...
126	83	Zetters Gp	125	...	8.0	8.0	14.1

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3675	1125	Ang Am	3225	+18½	...	2.1	27.7
2100	1018½	Ang Am Coal	2100	+37½	...	4.4	10.8
6518½	1800	Ang Am Gold	5993½	+168½	...	3.7	26.9
34	8½	Anglo Pac Res▲	34	+½	...	...	...
405	115	Bakyrchik	320	...	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	136½	+6½	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	30½	+½	...	29.3	5.3
806	233	Buffels	730½	+29½	...	8.9	6.5
6	1	Butte	3½	...	...	...	...
930½	546	CRA	841½	-4½	...	2.5	26.9
55½	11	Cliff Res	49	...	...	...	...
1750	762½	De Beers	1637½	+15½	...	3.4	∞
165	37½	Deelkraal	104	+½	...	1.9	7.6
96	7	Doornfontein	43½	+½	...	...	...
914	388	Driefontein	806	+54½	...	4.1	13.3
788	120	Durban	571	+20	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	129½	+7½	...	8.4	3.8
175	35	E Rand Prop	89½	+8½	...	...	...
604	117	Elandsrand	386½	+10½	...	5.1	∞
1239	292	FS Cons	949½	+55½	...	6.8	12.2
80	8	FS Dev	44	...	...	...	...
1800	725	GFSA	1431½	...	...	2.8	24.1
152½	62½	Gencor	147½	+4½	...	4.5	16.5
80½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	69	+½	...	2.0	28.2
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15½	-½	...	...	...
202	49	Grootvlei	131 †	+10½	...	7.6	8.3
416	78	Harmony	379½	+5½	...	...	...
430	87	Harties	342½	+15½	...	8.3	8.5
21½	8½	Inoco▲	15½	...	...	...	12.8
1028½	490½	Impala Plat	1015½	+18½	...	2.7	33.3
16½	6	Kenmare Res▲	14½	...	...	...	...
1315½	331½	Kinross	981½	+6½	...	6.3	10.9
913	319	Kloof	709½	+45½	...	3.4	8.4
137	25	Leslie	86 †	+7½	...	13.1	4.6
359	13	Loraine	238½	+8	...	...	...
1125	618½	Lydenburg	1100	-25	...	1.9	...
159½	80	MIM	151½	-1	...	1.5	66.7
1512	820	Minorco	1481	+30	...	2.6	17.6
201½	91	Nth Brkn Hill	171½	+5	...	2.9	26.4
4587½	612½	Orange Free	2434½	+106½	...	5.2	14.4
899	607	RTZ	864 †	+3	...	3.0	26.5
268½	106½	Rand Mines	268½	...	...	4.2	10.2
801½	150	Randfontein	655	+28½	...	6.3	6.6
295	115	Renison	235	-2	...	1.9	24.3
1346½	850	Rustnbrg	1268½	+6½	...	2.5	29.0
756	191	St Helena	659 †	+20½	...	6.4	13.8
2887½	475	Southvaal	2225 †	+212½	...	4.2	24.2
119	18	Stilfontein	86 †	+3½	...	24.0	16.1
201	58	Unisel	126½	+7½	...	3.5	12.1
7600	1800	Vaal Reefs	6750 †	+271½	...	4.0	∞
813	154	Welkom	630	+24½	...	5.3	14.1
640	26	Western Areas	594½	+20½	...	4.4	4.1
3362½	587½	Western Deep	2862½	+100	...	3.8	∞
398	176	Wstrn Mining	338½	-½	...	1.6	...
1225	321½	Winkels	815½	+37½	...	5.7	7.8
84	49	Zambia Copper	59	+1	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	52	...	...	8.9	17.2

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
273	233	Abbey Panels	273	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
175	78	Appleyard	157	...	...	4.1	...
405	203	Blechley Mtr	373	-7	...	3.1	19.0
231	120	Bostrom	230	...	6.0	3.3	40.7
584	165	Br Aerospace	506 †	-5	...	2.1	44.3
58	19½	Burndene	45	...	...	4.9	12.1
465	303	Caffyns	408	-2	11.5	3.5	21.6
22	4½	Caverdale	20½	...	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr▲	116 †	...	...	4.3	28.7
43	18	Cook (DC)▲	37	...	0.9	3.0	21.0
348	156	Cowie (T)	318 †	-1	7.8	3.1	∞
205	86	Dag Motors	193	-2	5.7	3.7	34.9
157	102½	Davnprt Vern	132 †	-20	...	4.0	13.1
332	155	ERF	330	...	2.0	0.8	...
173	92	European Mtr	148	...	...	3.1	20.8
552	208	Evans Halshaw	549	-3	13.0	3.0	∞
308	211	FR Group	279	-1	...	3.2	13.0
4718½	2843½	Ford Motor	4187½	-75	...	...	...
4387½	2143½	General Mtr	4056½	-81½	...	1.3	...
90	38	Gowrings	79	-2	2.0	3.2	...
354	85	Henlys	335 †	-4	7.5	2.9	∞
1146½	769	Honda Motor	1118	+3	...	0.8	...
48	15	Jacks (Wm)	41	...	...	...	...
116	66	Jessups	90	...	4.5	6.2	...
184	97	Kwik-Fit	168	+½	...	2.9	∞
573	281	Lex Service	535	-4	...	2.6	29.2
276	85	Lookers	264 †	-3	...	3.1	25.7
239	126	Lucas	219	+4	...	4.0	...
29½	21	Malaya Grp	27	...	...	...	...
310	224½	Pendragon	306	-1	...	2.6	25.1
238	101½	Perry Gp	234	...	7.0	3.8	∞
218	108	Quicks Group	213	...	...	2.8	27.2
192½	96½	Rolls-Royce	188½	-3½	...	3.4	∞
249	164	T & N	239	-1	...	5.7	∞
300	163	Trinity Hldgs	278	...	...	2.5	26.0
221	125	Vardy (Reg)	211 †	...	...	2.5	24.8
338	121	Westland	325	...	...	1.7	22.8

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
355	103	Adscene	323 †	...	5.7	2.2	33.1
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	280	Blenheim Gp	339	...	...	3.5	12.6
410	275	Bristol	410	...	...	3.7	37.0
1650	1100	Daily Mail	1496½	+6½	...	1.2	35.1
1484½	768½	Daily Mail 'A'	1259½	+6½	...	1.5	29.5
355	210	Dorling Kind	264	...	...	1.6	23.9
6712½	4337½	Elsevier	6181½	-178½	...	3.0	∞
476	322	EMAP	434	...	...	2.1	36.8
1600	873	Euromoney Pb	1600	...	...	3.0	28.1
264	154	Harrington K	174	-3	4.9	3.6	∞
515	155½	Haynes Pub	450 †	...	...	2.0	25.4
403	334	Hodder H'line	402	+3	5.1	1.6	34.2
180	99	Home Counts	165	...	5.2	4.0	...
195	30	Ind Bus Comm	193	+1	...	...	27.9
15	6½	Im Cm & Data▲	13	...	...	...	...
510	240	Independent	490	+10	...	2.9	∞
669	395	Johnstone Press	667	-1	6.5	1.2	28.0
381	243	Metal Bulletn	380 †	+1	10.0	3.3	∞
203	88	Mirror Gp	194	+1	...	...	14.1
515	297	News Corp	454½	-2½	...	0.3	...
314	169	News Intl	279	-1	...	0.6	17.1
735	342	Pearson	653	-17	...	2.3	35.5
760	530	Portsmth Sund	755	...	...	1.6	20.8
964	618	Reed Intl	860	-6	18.7	2.7	∞
349	98	Southnews	247	...	2.3	1.2	45.7
220	90	Sterling Pub▲	200 †	...	...	1.0	24.4
608	328	Telegraph	594	+3	...	2.8	19.1
885	715	Thomson Corp	895	...	30.1	4.3	43.7
472	313	Trinity Intl	455	+1	9.0	2.5	21.3
39	21	Unit Group▲	30	...	...	...	...
731	480½	Utd Newspaprs	688	-7	...	3.9	19.1

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	26½	...	...	...	26.0
61	33	Arcon Intl▲	42	...	...	...	...
74½	41½	Aus Oil & Gas	74½	+2½	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	58	...	...	...	...
16	3½	Beverley	7½	...	...	...	74.6
233	145	Br Borneo	224	+2	7.1	4.0	∞
301½	276	British Gas	304½	-7½	...	6.1	...
496½	325	Br Petroleum	367½	-1½	...	2.9	30.7
3½	1	Bula Resources	2½	...	...	...	...
875	675	Burmah Castrl	837	-3	...	3.8	19.5
68	32	Cairn Energy	64	+2	...	...	9.2
375	223	Calor Gp	321	-4	...	4.7	17.5
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	38½	-1	...	...	...
44	21½	Copley Res	22½	+½	...	...	...
27½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas▲	22½	...	...	...	25.4
521	397	Enterprise	411	-2	...	4.9	21.2
88	26	Exp Co Louis	79	+13	...	...	...
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	25	...	...	5.0	∞
10½	4	Fortune	5½	...	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	67	+2	1.4	2.6	12.8
48	18	Gt Western Res	38	...	...	...	...
181	101½	Hardy O & G	158	...	...	0.8	14.7
55	18½	Kelt Energy	50	...	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	130	-2	...	3.2	26.3

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
300	63	-do- Units	85	...	...	9.4	19.5
24	2	Mid Scot Res▲	4½	...	...	...	...
66½	34	Monument	62½	...	...	...	...
9½	4	New London	9	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	29	...	1.0	4.3	[illegible]
50	27	Oil Search	42	-1	...	...	...
50½	11½	Petrex	37½	-1½	...	...	...
163	90	Pict Pet	101	-1	...	...	...
39½	18	Premier	25½	...	...	...	9.5
168	50	Presidio	128	...	...	[illegible]	...
410	290	Ranger	350	...	...	4.6	...
7700	5150	Royal Dtch Fl	6965½	-91½	...	4.4	∞
4590	3683	Schlumberger	3977½	+15½	...	2.0	...
67	47	Seafield	55	-2	...	...	...
749	515	Shell	672½	-10½	...	4.5	∞
201	135	Sunrise Eng Sv	125	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	33	...	...	...	...
19	6	Villiers Grp	16½	...	...	...	...
228½	135	Woodside	187	+3	...	[illegible]	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
184	120	AG Holdings	188	...	...	3.9	15.2
444	249	API	399	...	...	2.0	29.0
302	144	Arjo Wiggins	291	-3	...	2.5	∞
730	408	Abbott Mead	705	...	10.5	1.9	∞
40	13	Accis Gp	29	-½	...	...	...
212	118	Aspen Comm▲	194	...	4.9	3.2	[illegible]
26	2	BBB Design▲	24	...	...	...	...
472	223	Bemrose	460	...	...	3.2	[illegible]
30½	7	Birkdale	11½	...	...	...	...
184	118	Bunzl	181	-1½	4.0	2.8	[illegible]
430	257	CIA Gp	370	...	4.4	1.4	[illegible]
230	91	Capital Inds	170	...	...	2.6	[illegible]
93	44	City of Lon▲	60	...	...	6.6	[illegible]
439	169	Cropper (James)	432	...	3.2	1.9	[illegible]
114	51	Delyn Group	112	...	1.6	1.9	[illegible]
137	94	Dolphin Pack	135	...	4.5	4.5	[illegible]
87	42	Dudley Jenkins▲	80 †	...	...	4.4	7.8
16½	10½	Elswick	14	...	...	2.7	15.7
93	41	Fairway Group▲	91 †	...	...	4.7	18.1
430	271	Ferguson Intl	417	...	...	1.7	19.9
145	92	Ferry Pick	145 †	...	...	4.8	∞
227	74	Filofax▲	221 †	...	...	0.9	24.4
20	6	Fitch	13	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons▲	146	...	5.2	4.5	15.5
295	163	Gold Greenless	184 †	...	8.4	5.7	15.6
41	17	Goodhead	31	...	...	[illegible]	∞
88	15	Hunterprint	37	+3	...	...	...
185	110	Interurope	132 †	...	...	3.4	11.6
290	191	Jarvis Porter	288	...	...	2.1	21.6
33½	15½	Lopex	30	...	...	...	...
38½	26	MDM	34	-½	...	...	...
431	175	More O'Ferrall	423	...	13.2	3.9	[illegible]
146	48	NMC Group	121	...	[illegible]	2.8	[illegible]
300	66	Osborne & Little	295	...	...	2.2	[illegible]
80	[illegible]	Osprey Comms	49	...	...	[illegible]	...
640	455	Portals	601	+11	...	3.2	19.2
3½	0½	Premier Hlth	2½	...	...	...	...
330	159	Quarto	315	...	...	2.2	20.4
415	370	St Ives Gp	390	...	...	1.8	[illegible]
186	131	Saatchi	149	+9	...	...	[illegible]
627½	292	Sappi	627½	+20½	...	5.2	12.0
30½	9½	Seril	29	...	...	...	...
59½	14	Shandwick	50	+3½	...	...	...
520	294	Smith David	519	+5	...	2.4	[illegible]
361	330	Smurfit (Jeff)	325	...	...	1.6	[illegible]
119	45	Somic	112	...	2.5	2.9	[illegible]
254	163	Sun-Plus	249	...	5.5	[illegible]	∞
31	16½	Taylor Nelson	31½	...	0.3	[illegible]	[illegible]
151	38	TTR▲	141	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
129	40	WPP	115	-5	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
264	62	Wace	242	...	...	[illegible]	...
300	201	Waddington (J)	254	+1	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
311	270	Watmough	307	+1	5.6	1.5	∞
7	3	Westport▲	4	...	...	...	...
44	12	Whitney Mcke	35	...	...	...	...
103	55	Wyndeham	101 †	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
130	41	Allied Lon	114	...	...	3.4	29.5
48	35	Arcadian	43	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	9	...	...	...	...
144	52	Asda	119	...	...	2.3	12.3
191	88	Avenside	174	...	4.1	2.9	24.3
2637½	2062½	BCE▲	2551½	-9½	...	...	...
765	396	Bilton	700	-5	18.9	3.4	[illegible]
107	17	Bourne End	102	...	...	1.2	...
276	150	Bradford	237	-1	5.9	3.1	24.0
23	5	Bredero	17	+½	...	...	...
474	166½	Br Land	409	+1	...	2.2	[illegible]
270	140½	Brixton	218	-2	...	4.8	17.3
118	39½	Burford	102 ‡	...	...	1.7	32.9
207½	94½	Cap & Regnl▲	188 †	-2	...	1.0	∞
315	130	Cardiff Prop	315 †	...	...	1.0	76.5
185	170	Chelsfield	170	-1	...	1.5	...
678	196	Chesterfield	650	...	11.5	2.2	46.5
84	12	City Site Ests	71	...	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	26	...	...	...	...
548	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
56	29½	Conrad Ritlat GS	46 †	...	...	...	...
1755	818	Daejan	1625	...	...	2.1	29.1
65	5	Dares Estates	17	-½	...	...	...
156	53	Debenham Twsn	137	-3	...	3.0	26.0
17	4	De Morgan	15	...	...	...	...
189	76	Dencora	182	...	3.0	2.1	...
723	263	Derwent Hldgs	688	-2	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	39½	...	...	...	...
65	24	Dwyer	57	+1	...	...	...
460	170	Estates Agency	460	...	...	2.1	54.7
47	7½	Estates Gen	35½	+½	...	...	...
132	66	Evans Of Leeds	119	-3	...	2.5	21.0
37	11	Five Oaks	34½	...	...	...	...
78	30	Fletcher King	77	...	1.0	1.6	51.0
536	226½	Frogmore	471	-5	...	4.2	22.7
325	97	Grainger	316	...	...	2.1	36.5
260	116½	Gr Portland	227	-1	...	4.4	21.7
23½	3½	Greycoat	19	...	...	...	...
269	101	HK Land	209½	-11½	...	3.2	26.4
94	35	Hambro Cntyw	73	...	0.7	1.3	∞
435	233	Hammerson	381	-3	10.0	3.3	38.5
378	127	Helical Bar	355	...	...	1.7	12.8
40½	19	Hemingway	36½	...	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	71	...	3.7	6.6	17.8
315	139	Jermyn	245	...	...	...	...
802	435	Land Sec	694	-9	23.1	4.2	30.7
122	73	Lon Merch Sec	103	-2	4.0	4.9	16.0
22½	8½	Lon & Metro	14	...	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	490	-3	...	5.1	28.2
13½	5	McInerney A	12	...	...	...	...
190	90	McKay Secs	175 †	...	3.5	2.5	24.0
8½	2½	Markheath	6 #	...	...	...	...
81	12	Merivale Mre	78	+1	...	...	...
55	29	Moorfield Est	45	...	...	...	...
1425	775	Mountview	1365½	+34½	22.0	2.0	14.2
196	112	Mucklow (A&J)	172	-4	...	4.6	24.5
70	30	Olives Prop	54	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	ORB	1½	...	...	...	...
181	88	PSIT	165 †	-2	4.3	3.3	32.7
390	138	Peel	342 †	-1	4.3	1.6	...
16	4½	Power Corp	7½	...	...	...	...
50	22	Property Trust	40	...	...	...	11.4
63	33	Raglan	46	-2	...	...	...
40	11	Regalian	34½	+½	...	...	...
175	110	Rowlinson Secs	175	...	1.5	1.1	21.9
64	16	St Modwen Prp	53 †	...	...	2.4	22.2
78	39	Saville Grdn (J)	68 †	-2	...	5.0	33.9
100	39	Savills	93	+1	...	2.4	36.8
112	33½	Scot Met	92	...	...	2.0	...
135	39	Shaftesbury	133	...	...	...	...
17	5	Shield	17	+½	...	...	8.9
280	139½	Slough Estates	260	+3	...	3.5	18.6
103	56	Southend Prop	87	...	...	3.4	...
65	16	Stanhope Prps▲	41	...	...	...	...
244	114	Tops Ests	240 †	...	2.1	1.1	...
163	79	Town Centre	147	-3	...	2.9	26.3
107	43	Trafford Park	91	-4	...	3.8	21.0
58	17	UK Land	40	...	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9	...	...	...	...
317	180	Warner	253 †	-2	...	5.4	22.5
249	168	Warnford	248 †	...	7.5	3.8	18.2
8	2	Waterglade	3	...	...	...	...
104	34	Wates	90	...	...	...	...
105	40	Wood John D▲	101	...	...	0.9	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
45	11	Automagic▲	45	...	...	...	...
230	84	Headlam	230	+1	...	1.6	51.9
500	285	Lambert	385	...	13.7	4.6	∞
100	44	Pittards	65	...	1.5	2.9	18.6
30	20	Strong & Fisher	25	...	1.0	5.2	∞
250	89	Stylo	241	...	...	1.6	...
67	53	UK Safety	60	...	...	4.9	2.2

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
617	408	Allied Text	568 ‡	-6	...	2.8	19.7
71	54	Beckman (A)	65	...	...	6.9	13.9
47	21	Bolton Gp	39	-1	...	...	...
226	141	Br Mohair	205	-1	8.5	5.4	∞
68	15	Charnwell▲	58	...	...	...	...
380	298	Claremont Ga	380	...	7.1	2.7	∞
601	449	Courtauld Text	567	-1	14.2	3.2	∞
53½	14	Cupid▲	16	-½	...	...	...
248½	124	Dawson	155	-2	...	6.1	11.8
47	23	Drummond	34	...	...	...	...
89	65	Faupel▲	78	...	4.9	7.9	12.1
34	15	Foster (John)	27	...	...	...	...
168	82	Gaskell	166	-1	4.2	3.2	...
249	156	Hicking Pntcst	235	...	...	2.2	16.7
90	45	Jerome (S)	65	...	...	0.4	...
485	349	Lamont	458	-2	12.0	3.3	30.1
343½	235½	Leeds	336	...	...	2.1	17.7
122	73	Lyles (S)	86	...	...	4.8	...
215	89	Magellan	177	...	1.4	1.0	...
266	77½	Parkland	233	-7	...	0.9	...
112	82	Readicut	109	-½	...	3.9	20.5
78	35	SEET	66	...	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	135	-1	...	5.1	9.2
72	44	Stirling Gp	63	...	1.9	3.8	17.4
51	35	Stoddard	37	...	...	5.1	34.4
330	230	Tomkinsons	319	...	...	4.5	27.1
59	30½	West Trust	43 †	...	...	7.8	...
280	126	Yorklyde	259	...	...	2.6	17.0

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
570	407	BAT	472	-1	...	5.5	13.7
495	315½	Rothmans	412	-6	...	3.8	12.9

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
627	349	Assoc Br Ports	585 †	+2	...	3.0	∞
1083	702	BAA	1005	-3	...	2.1	25.0
128	106	Badgerline	119	...	...	4.3	∞
496½	240	Br Airways	426½	-½	...	3.2	17.9
113	56	Clarkson (H)	96	...	1.7	2.3	...
665	332	Eurotunnel Uts	535	-4	...	...	...
87	44	Fisher (James)	85	...	0.5	0.7	22.8
293	147	Ioma Steam	289	+2	...	3.6	15.2
55	24	Jacobs (JI)	49	...	3.3	8.7	∞
111	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	103	-1	...	1.3	18.9
534	284	Mersey Docks	465 †	-8	0.0	2.4	∞
282	181	Natl Express	274	...	...	3.2	28.3
291	218	NFC	247 †	...	...	3.5	37.9
348	244	Ocean Group	306	-2	...	5.9	...
91	40	Ocean Wilson	83	...	4.0	6.0	15.0
728	504	P & O Dfd	679	-13	...	5.6	36.8
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	158	...	...	4.4	...
705	448	Powell Duffryn	660	-1	...	4.2	21.2
241	117	Seacon▲	226 †	-2	...	3.3	20.5
206	112	Stagecoach	194	...	...	2.4	23.9
121	31½	TNT	104½	-2½	...	...	...
915	624	Tibbet & Britten	835	...	12.6	1.9	32.0
382	37	Tiphook	48	-2	...	...	...
327	227	TDG	277 †	-1	...	4.3	∞
132	98	Upland	127	...	...	...	...

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	497½	-8½	...	5.4	8.8
306	244	Mid Kent Hldgs	364	...	...	3.7	13.4
761	547	Northumbrian	642 †	-6	...	4.5	7.5
611	431½	North West	532 †	-7	...	5.3	8.8
645	430	Severn Trent	564 †	...	...	4.8	8.2
685	454	Sthn Water	565 †	...	...	4.8	8.2
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1558	...	48.5	3.9	11.1
675	465	South West	505 †	-3	...	5.4	9.1
611	454	Thames Water	530	...	...	5.1	9.3
744	506	Welsh Water	656 †	-11	...	4.6	6.6
759½	536	Wessex Water	661 †	+2	...	4.2	10.5
630	473½	Yorkshire W	524 †	+3	...	5.2	8.7

Source: Finstat

▲ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; ‡ Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
109[illegible]	100[illegible]	Exch 13¾% 1994	100[illegible]	[illegible]	13.38	5.04
105[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 10% 1994	101[illegible]	...	9.89	5.02
110[illegible]	103[illegible]	Exch 12½% 1994	103[illegible]	...	12.11	4.87
105[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 9% 1994	102[illegible]	[illegible]	8.77	4.99
111[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas 12% 1995	105[illegible]	[illegible]	11.34	4.95
98	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97[illegible]	...	3.06	5.05
109[illegible]	105[illegible]	Exch 10¼% 1995	106[illegible]	...	9.62	5.21
116[illegible]	111[illegible]	Treas 12¾% 1995	111[illegible]	[illegible]	11.43	5.40
120[illegible]	114[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	114[illegible]	[illegible]	12.23	5.61
125[illegible]	118[illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	118[illegible]	[illegible]	12.86	5.80
120[illegible]	114[illegible]	Exch 13¼% 1996	114[illegible]	[illegible]	11.54	5.82
112[illegible]	108[illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	109[illegible]	[illegible]	9.14	6.10
122[illegible]	117[illegible]	Treas 13¼% 1997	117[illegible]	[illegible]	11.23	6.25
114[illegible]	110[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	111	[illegible]	9.46	6.30
110[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	107	[illegible]	8.18	6.42
132[illegible]	126[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	126[illegible]	[illegible]	11.85	6.56
114[illegible]	109[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	110[illegible]	[illegible]	8.85	6.67
106[illegible]	99[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	102[illegible] †	[illegible]	7.09	6.61
102[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101[illegible]	[illegible]	6.65	5.45
131[illegible]	125[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	125[illegible]	[illegible]	11.17	6.90
140[illegible]	133[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	133[illegible] †	[illegible]	11.63	6.80
126[illegible]	118[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	119[illegible]	[illegible]	10.03	6.97
116[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	110[illegible]	[illegible]	8.60	6.90

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	96[illegible] †	[illegible]	6.22	6.77
128[illegible]	120[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	121[illegible] †	[illegible]	10.08	7.05
121[illegible]	112[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	114[illegible]	[illegible]	9.15	7.02
121[illegible]	112[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	114[illegible]	[illegible]	8.96	7.10
116[illegible]	106	Conv 9% 2000	109[illegible]	[illegible]	8.25	7.08
136[illegible]	125[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	127[illegible]	-1[illegible]	10.16	7.37
106[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	98[illegible]	-1	7.10	7.22
122[illegible]	109[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	113[illegible]	-1	8.78	7.31
123[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	114[illegible]	[illegible]	8.54	7.45
113[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	104[illegible]	[illegible]	7.68	7.35
127[illegible]	109[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	116[illegible]	[illegible]	8.56	7.48
129[illegible]	116[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	121 †	[illegible]	9.50	7.56
80[illegible]	67[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	77[illegible]	[illegible]	4.53	6.57
105[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	95[illegible]	[illegible]	7.06	7.33
125[illegible]	105[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	114[illegible]	[illegible]	8.30	7.50
125[illegible]	105[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	114[illegible] ‡	[illegible]	8.27	7.49
143[illegible]	124[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	131[illegible]	[illegible]	9.48	7.73
111[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	102[illegible] †	-1[illegible]	7.82	7.58
112[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	102[illegible]	[illegible]	7.59	7.47
139[illegible]	118[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	125[illegible]	[illegible]	9.38	7.73
119[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	107[illegible]	-1[illegible]	7.93	7.54
151[illegible]	131[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	139[illegible] ‡	-1	9.68	7.75
124[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	112[illegible] ‡	-1[illegible]	8.00	7.55

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115[illegible]	92[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	103[illegible] †	-1[illegible]	7.70	7.54
126[illegible]	100[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	113[illegible]	-1[illegible]	7.94	7.58
127[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	113[illegible]	-1[illegible]	7.91	7.58
94	70[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	81[illegible]	-1[illegible]	6.77	7.37
114[illegible]	89[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	101[illegible]	-1[illegible]	7.61	7.53
117[illegible]	93[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	104[illegible] †	-1[illegible]	7.69	7.58
159[illegible]	125[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	142[illegible]	-1[illegible]	8.45	7.78
128[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	112[illegible]	-1[illegible]	7.76	7.58

UNDATED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
54[illegible]	39[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	45[illegible]	[illegible]	7.65	...
37[illegible]	27[illegible]	Treas 2½%	31[illegible] ‡	[illegible]	7.94	...

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
137[illegible]	131[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1994	137[illegible]	+[illegible]	...	...
204[illegible]	194[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	200[illegible]	[illegible]	1.66	2.61
113[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	109[illegible]	[illegible]	1.86	2.50
176[illegible]	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	170[illegible] †	[illegible]	2.58	2.93
173[illegible]	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	166[illegible]	[illegible]	2.80	3.08
118[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	113[illegible] †	[illegible]	2.81	3.09
184[illegible]	159[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	175[illegible]	-1[illegible]	2.94	3.16
168[illegible]	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	157[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.14	3.33
175[illegible]	148[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	164[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.17	3.35
146[illegible]	122[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	135[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.22	3.37
157[illegible]	130[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	144[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.27	3.42
152[illegible]	124[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	139[illegible] †	-1[illegible]	3.32	3.44
129[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	116[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.30	3.42
128[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	116[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.33	3.45

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
St Helens, 1 Undershaft, London EC3A 8NE 071 929 2600 Dealing: 0800 289 336				
Allied Irish Inv Fd	1,000.00	1,000.00	...	...
Allied Irish Inv Fd (Inc)	1,000.00	1,000.00	...	...
ALLIANCE & LEICESTER UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Bowling Green Lane, Cirencester, Glos GL7 1BA 0285 658 658 Dealing: 0800 289 336				
Income	1,000.00	1,000.00	...	...
Growth	1,000.00	1,000.00	...	...
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL IFA dlg: 0793 680 306 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	244.60	261.60	+ 3.20	2.89
Capital	440.00	470.30	+ 5.80	1.49
Balanced	718.60	768.10	+ 7.00	2.36
Accumulator	1270.0	1357.0	+11.00	2.73
Income Trusts				
American Income	49.33	52.73R	- 0.75	3.34
High Income	425.10	454.40R	+ 6.20	3.32
Equity Income	239.80	256.30R	+ 3.00	3.41
High Yield	263.70	281.80	+ 3.60	3.53
Govt Securities	34.21	36.10	- 0.44	4.49
International Trusts				
American Spec Sits	141.20	150.90R	+ 5.10	0.20
European Growth	35.01	37.26	+ 0.20	0.43
International	166.00	179.30	+ 1.30	0.22
Japan	202.30	247.70R	+ 4.30	0.01
Pacific	236.50	455.90	+ 2.90	0.17
Rest of America	440.10	469.40R	+11.40	1.91
Wwide Assel Val	49.75	53.11	+ 0.41	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	543.10	580.50	+ 6.90	2.16
Conv & Gilt	48.95	52.35T	+ 0.13	3.86
Smaller Cos	187.20	200.10T	+ 0.10	0.80
2nd Smaller Cos	179.20	191.50T	+ 0.30	0.50
Recovery	152.00	162.40	+ 2.60	1.71
Met Min & Cdty	162.40	173.60	+ 4.90	0.78
Oseas Earnings	369.60	395.00T	+ 4.50	1.78
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 536 911				
Cntrcid Onl Pens	102.70	106.60	- 0.70	1.45
Foundtn Pens Pens	64.48	66.99	- 1.51	4.00
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
28 St John's Sq, London EC1M 4AE 071 251 6767				
Capital	72.98	77.64	- 0.50	2.62
International	64.59	69.14	+ 0.59	0.48
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY 031 222 4242				
America	319.60	345.10	+ 3.80	...
Bond	119.40	125.50	- 2.50	6.23
Brit Smlr Cos	105.30	113.10	- 0.10	0.93
Conv & Gen	66.75	71.24F	- 0.35	4.88
Energy	451.40	489.90	+14.90	0.22
Europe	237.00	252.30	+ 1.30	0.46
Euro Smlr Cos	106.50	113.10	+ 0.80	0.83
Income Growth	367.10	391.80F	+ 2.40	3.89
Japan	343.30	367.30	+ 2.60	...
Pacific	107.70	114.60	- 2.60	0.69
UK Smlr Cos	53.87	57.31	- 0.41	0.76
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN 071 489 8875				
Brit & Overs	295.30	307.70	- 1.10	1.19
Capital Gwth	118.50	124.70	+ 1.80	2.14
Wwide Opps	184.90	194.60	+ 5.90	0.46
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BB 081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Yld Inc	357.60	372.90	+ 1.90	7.36
European Bd Inc	96.45	99.86	+ 0.84	7.27
Exempt	77.68	82.86	+ 0.48	3.84
Financial	75.54	80.79	- 0.24	2.26
500 Dlr	483.30	516.90F	- 2.50	2.01
General	278.20	297.60F	- 0.20	2.34
Property	248.40	266.70	- 0.30	5.46
Trustee	191.80	205.10	- 2.60	1.94
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.70	100.70	...	4.58
Extra Income	122.80	131.40	+ 0.60	3.74
Gilt & Fxd Int	59.67	61.86F	- 0.84	7.90
Income	554.40	592.90	+ 2.60	3.68
Income Builder	68.77	71.02F	+ 0.23	4.35
Intl Income	68.28	72.61	- 0.17	2.90
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	118.60	126.80F	+ 1.10	2.32
Leisure	125.90	134.30	- 0.30	0.77
Recovery	437.30	467.60	+ 3.10	2.31
Smlr Cos Inc	45.80	49.11	- 0.15	1.65
Special Sits	294.60	315.10	- 0.20	1.41
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	139.50	147.70	+ 4.80	0.13
Aust Acc	268.10	285.20	+ 3.10	1.35
Aust Inc	167.80	178.50	+ 1.90	1.35
Euro Gwth Inc	147.30	156.10	+ 1.80	0.31
Japan & Gen Inc	194.80	206.30F	+ 2.30	...
Japan Spec Sits	86.18	91.30	+ 0.35	...
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
PO Box 158, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ 081 658 6002				
American Growth	108.30	111.40	+ 2.60	...
Capital Gr. Krull	150.00	152.80	+ 3.30	1.96
Cash Trust	50.69	50.69	+ 0.03	4.90
Convertibles	62.82	67.23F	- 0.54	5.60
Eastern	267.70	290.70	-14.40	1.66
Equity Income	92.36	98.14	+ 0.83	4.90
European Growth	297.50	316.30	+ 3.30	1.50
Europe	217.30	232.20	+ 2.30	1.50
German Growth	71.11	75.70	+ 0.66	0.70
Global Bond	67.19	70.94	+ 0.04	5.30
Global Growth	135.40	141.10	+ 0.50	...
Japan Growth	225.70	242.30	+ 1.50	...
Japan Sunrise	191.80	205.20	+ 1.80	...
Korea Trust	78.35	87.63	+ 0.08	...
Pacific Basin	136.70	146.00H	+ 0.20	3.00
UK Growth	96.26	102.40	+ 0.20	2.60
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
29-34 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL 071 298 3000				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	82.56	87.83	+ 0.78	...
Special Opport Inc	53.70	59.26	- 0.64	...
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD				
5 Giltspur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6441				
Special Sits	186.50	199.50	+ 2.00	0.62
Dividend	83.53	89.34T	+ 0.25	3.78
Int Gth & Inc	226.60	242.30	+ 2.40	2.19
UK & Gen	86.25	89.47T	+ 0.29	0.90
Fund of Funds	68.38	73.13T	+ 0.07	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
50 Rockwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR 041 223 6028				
Balanced Growth	110.73	117.17	+ 0.85	1.27
Smaller Cos	109.50	115.87	+ 0.24	0.97
Higher Yield	44.54	48.25	+ 0.14	2.42
American Gth Inc	80.56	85.24F	+ 3.87	...
European Growth	137.98	146.01F	+ 1.89	...
Global Bond Inc	70.92	71.06	- 0.07	5.90
Mngd Ptflio Inc	45.41	48.05F	+ 0.41	0.94
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
1IT Feedback St, London EC3M 5AL 071 480 7234				
Short Dated Gilt	65.75	66.60F	- 0.44	5.57
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH 061 832 5000				
Environ	158.40	168.60	+ 0.60	1.36
UK Growth	169.30	180.20F	+ 0.90	1.42
UK Income	139.40	148.40	+ 0.20	3.84
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 654 122				
Can Gen Dist	189.50	200.90	+ 1.30	1.85
Inc Income Dist	113.40	120.20	+ 0.60	4.44
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.76	44.26F	- 0.75	6.15

For Cannon see Lincoln National

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
65 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF 061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5362				
American & Gen	152.80	162.60	- 3.70	...
European Inc	80.64	85.49	+ 1.28	0.34
Smaller Cos (4-1)	86.07	91.57F	- 0.15	1.14
Growth	426.20	466.60F	+ 1.10	1.98
Income & Growth	418.90	445.70H	+ 5.30	3.47
Japan & Gen	78.31	83.31T	+ 0.79	...
Master Portfolio	11095	11310	+29.00	1.52
CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS				
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh 031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 981				
American Gwth Tst	38.31	40.97	+ 1.25	0.21
Cash Income	50.62	50.62	+ 0.03	4.54
European Gwth	40.03	42.66	+ 0.62	0.35
Income & Gwth Inc	28.57	30.55F	+ 0.48	4.05
Intnl Gwth	32.20	34.43	+ 0.30	0.53
Japan Gwth	28.95	30.86	+ 0.31	...
Managed Tst Inc	49.86	53.32	+ 0.34	1.50
Oriental Opps Inc	137.20	146.70	- 6.50	...
Property Shares	46.39	49.61	- 0.84	1.64
Smaller Cos	35.87	38.22	+ 0.70	1.46
UK Growth Tst	25.47	28.31	+ 0.14	2.66
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	26.42	28.25	+ 0.62	0.38
European Acc	27.40	29.30	+ 0.64	0.38
Financial	151.60	162.10S	- 0.80	1.72
Secondaries	93.60	100.10S	- 1.30	2.28
German	50.80	54.33	+ 0.53	0.07
High Income	78.26	83.70H	+ 0.25	5.26
Income	137.50	147.00	+ 1.20	3.40
Intl Growth	39.19	41.91	+ 0.66	0.15
Mngd Ptflio Inc	107.03	114.40	+ 1.50	1.62
Mngd Ptflio Acc	204.30	218.70	+ 4.70	1.62
Monthly Income	86.94	92.98F	+ 2.39	3.13
North American	108.60	116.10	+ 2.50	...
Orient	148.50	158.80	- 2.90	...
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH 071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	82.60	88.19	+ 0.28	2.18
American Portfolio	91.09	97.09	+ 1.56	1.81
European Portfolio	97.44	103.99	+ 0.40	0.93
Japanese Portfolio	73.62	78.28	+ 0.53	...
Pacific Portfolio	140.90	151.40	+ 1.10	0.76
Utility & Bond	55.74	59.44	+ 0.10	6.31
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5900				
UK General Tst	65.27	69.43	+ 0.48	2.88
Global Tst	...	...	...	...
Recovery Tst	...	...	...	...
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD 071 837 7887				
Intl Growth	147.01	159.32	- 0.57	...
UK Growth	113.04	122.04	- 0.08	...
UK Income	117.45	127.28	- 0.66	3.69
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	87.26	92.40	- 0.66	1.81
Amer Equity Cos	528.50	559.60	+ 9.20	...
Asian Ethical Tst	160.69	169.15	- 0.71	1.20
City Fin Assets	75.85	79.84	- 1.07	1.58
City Fin America	83.83	89.67	- 0.65	...
City Fin Bond	79.20	83.41	- 0.07	6.11
City Fin Japan	178.11	189.18	+ 1.09	...
Friars Hse Cap	284.34	300.89	- 3.64	2.22
Friars Hse Inc	207.86	220.96	- 0.91	4.77
Strategic World Gth	140.63	149.61	- 0.87	0.87
Fairmnt Cap Gth	147.40	155.16	- 0.16	...
-do- Inc & Gth	119.13	125.40	- 0.06	1.58
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0992 412 144				
Emerging Markets	36.00	39.42	- 1.66	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	61.45	65.72	- 1.82	...
Adns Mngd Gwth	38.50	41.40	+ 0.16	0.07
Dragon Growth	68.28	73.03	- 2.58	0.52
Equity High Inc	90.63	96.73	- 1.01	3.46
European Gwth	93.66	53.89	+ 0.76	0.74
Evergreen	32.02	34.25	+ 0.67	...
General Equity	86.29	91.55	+ 0.22	2.12
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	25.84	27.16	- 0.51	7.70
Japan Growth	54.35	58.14	- 0.98	...
Pedigree Gwth	51.91	55.22	- 0.07	2.12
Pen Sm Cos Inc	34.01	36.18	- 0.33	0.61
Retirement Inc	25.62	28.62	+ 0.14	5.12
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
Clarendon Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY 0634 838 080				
Capital	65.51	70.06T	+ 0.80	2.74
Income	60.92	65.16T	+ 0.11	3.82
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD				
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PFT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	170.77	181.67	+ 1.41	4.87
Fixed & Convertible	44.84	47.70	- 0.51	5.35
Monthly Inc Plus	92.63	55.99	- 0.37	8.00
Preference Share	51.45	54.73	+ 1.23	6.75
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	137.22	145.98	+ 2.18	6.53
Managed Fund	69.43	73.86	+ 0.04	2.73
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	44.71	47.56	- 0.36	1.78
UK & General	79.72	84.81	+ 0.30	2.55
UK Growth	140.45	149.41	+ 2.00	1.60
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	190.35	205.60	+ 2.56	...
Far Eastern Gwth	134.34	142.91	- 1.97	0.29
Global Bond	85.05	90.38	- 0.22	5.88
Japan Growth	132.38	140.83	+ 2.00	...
North Amer Gwth	164.20	174.66	+ 4.36	...
Oriental Growth	77.44	82.38	+ 4.03	...
Worldwide Growth	67.43	71.73	- 0.93	0.23
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
Lyons Way, Sevenoaks, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744 040				
Growth Inc	59.25	63.03	- 0.59	2.60
High Income	34.80	37.02	+ 0.20	4.50
Japan	38.72	41.19	+ 0.49	...
Smaller Cos Inc	33.82	35.97	+ 0.01	2.20
Smaller Cos	35.19	37.43	+ 0.01	2.20
North American	33.34	35.46	+ 0.83	0.70
European	37.94	40.36	+ 0.49	0.40
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Consistent UT	32.14	34.49F	+ 0.12	4.28
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 398				
Growth	150.70	160.40	- 0.80	1.59
Income	75.59	80.52E	- 0.38	4.26
European	92.34	66.32	+ 0.95	0.68
Recovery	144.40	153.70H	- 3.40	1.26
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
35-68 Corstorphine Rd, Edinburgh EH12 6HP 031 334 9494				
Equity Dist	837.40	851.50	- 7.90	3.63
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1PJ 0277 260 378				
Fellowship Tst	73.64	78.35F	- 0.24	1.31
Income	243.70	259.20	+ 1.20	4.34
Smaller Cos	158.10	168.20	- 1.70	1.21
Inv Portfolio	79.40	84.69F	+ 0.25	1.41
High Income Fund	68.11	73.20	+ 0.36	4.50
DIMENSIONAL INST MGMT LTD				
188 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS 071 417 4199				
Euro Small Cos	1559.3	1593.8	+19.60	...
Japan Small Cos	1339.1	1365.3	+53.00	...
UK Small Cos	1894.6	1972.2	- 3.40	...
US Small Cos	1708.0	1751.9	+26.20	...
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
65 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL 071 377 5859				
Disc Inc	202.20	212.80	...	2.58
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
25, Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2900				
European Gwth	264.80	278.90	+ 2.90	1.07
New Asia	210.20	227.60	+10.30	0.35
Japan Growth	134.90	143.50	+ 1.00	...
Jap Smlr Co	360.70	995.90	+ 7.60	...
Nth Amer	255.80	271.20	+ 4.00	0.90
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	118.50	125.70	+ 0.50	6.10
UK Inc & Gth	223.00	238.10	+ 2.40	3.40
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 527 585				
UK Balanced Inc	144.00	153.20	- 0.40	1.75
UK High Inc Inc	159.30	169.50	- 1.00	4.71
UK Pref & Fixed	60.38	64.02	- 1.42	4.90
Envrnmntl Opps	85.18	90.63	- 0.57	1.36
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
37 Hanover Street, Edinburgh 0345 090 526				
American	125.60	133.50	- 1.70	0.15
Convertibles	24.30	25.82	- 0.19	6.30
Equity Income	134.80	142.40	+ 0.50	3.51
EuroFund	45.91	48.37	+ 0.06	0.31
Financial	50.00	53.13	- 0.36	1.51
Growth & Inc	238.70	253.60F	+ 0.70	2.96
High Dist	165.30	175.60	- 1.20	4.21
International	392.50	417.30	+ 0.90	0.24
Int Cap Inc	97.75	103.80	+ 0.63	2.50
Latin American	49.14	52.21	- 0.81	0.24
Pacific	82.89	88.07	- 2.10	...
Yukon	244.00	258.90	+2.400	...
UK Smaller Cos	246.60	262.00	- 1.20	0.90
ELCON LTD				
Control Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA 0689 78528				
Elcon Trust	223.60	238.70	- 1.30	...
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
43 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU 071 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	209.00	222.30	+ 3.40	0.31
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN 0296 434 480				
European	80.47	84.70	- 0.61	1.56
Far Eastern	313.25	329.72	- 3.40	1.48
High Income	137.46	144.69	- 1.80	4.17
Intl Growth	123.80	130.32F	- 0.94	1.12
North American	122.11	128.54	+ 3.32	0.93
Pelican	120.03	126.35	+ 0.76	2.61
Smaller Cos	78.54	82.67	- 0.42	1.74
Special Sits	95.16	100.17	- 0.14	2.27
Tst of Inv Tsts	190.89	200.94F	+ 0.62	1.73
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	224.35	233.68	- 1.77	1.54
Smaller Cos Acc	388.36	404.54	- 3.05	1.54
Recovery	59.32	61.79	- 0.20	1.84
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB 0392 412 144				
Balanced	111.17	118.36	- 1.51	4.85
Capital Growth	82.93	88.91	+ 0.48	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	45.96	49.03	- 0.19	0.23
High Income	43.71	51.96	+ 0.14	2.42
Warrant	62.61	68.09F	- 0.65	...
Zero Preference	37.08	39.35	- 0.07	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 720 787				
Family Asset Tst	78.31	83.31	+ 1.05	2.17
Family Income Tst	51.05	54.30	+ 0.09	5.66
Family Trust	93.79	99.77	- 1.69	1.03
United Charities	259.40	275.60	- 3.40	3.02
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ Call free: Private Clients: 0800 414 161 Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.50
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Controlled Risk	24.57	25.95	+ 0.08	3.18
-do- Europe	23.99	25.33	...	4.81
-do- America	23.25	24.49	...	0.30
-do- Acc Japan	26.83	28.47	- 0.09	0.48
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	30.01	30.38T	+ 0.29	7.31
Intl Bond	30.85	32.17	+ 0.04	5.19
Income Funds				
High Income	28.22	29.69T	- 0.14	4.91
Income Plus	121.30	129.20T	+ 0.60	3.85
Amer Eq Inc	49.47	52.48	+ 1.35	1.55
European Income	45.57	48.46T	- 0.21	1.94
Far East Inc	64.56	69.08	+ 0.16	2.20
Global Convertible	24.93	26.60T	- 0.19	2.87
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	57.42	61.25	- 2.61	...
Americap	248.50	263.90	+ 7.40	...
Amer Spec Sits	117.40	125.20	+ 3.20	...
Japan Smaller Cos	45.40	48.43F	+ 1.08	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	170.20	181.00	+ 1.60	...
European Opps	63.30	67.31	+ 0.56	...
UK Growth	91.69	96.23	+ 0.34	...
Growth & Inc	156.20	166.10	+ 0.40	2.34
Intl PEP	36.42	38.73	- 0.03	...
Japan Spec Sits	100.60	109.40	+ 0.10	2.61
Japan	212.10	226.40	+ 2.40	...
Managed Intl	278.40	297.40H	+ 2.70	...
Money/Builder	54.46	57.91	+ 0.17	...
Recovery	47.70	50.72T	+ 0.34	...
South E Asia	148.10	158.00	- 9.10	...
Special Sits	554.90	590.10	+ 0.60	...
Specialist Funds				
UK Index	109.30	115.10	+ 0.10	2.91
UK Revenue Index	75.99	80.17	+ 0.02	4.40
Europe Index	109.70	115.60	+ 2.50	4.47
-do- Revenue Index	66.02	69.66	- 3.32	8.04
America Index	101.50	107.10	+ 2.03	0.65
-do- Revenue Index	92.63	97.55	- 1.01	0.72
Japan Index	140.50	147.90	+ 3.60	0.01
-do- Revenue Index	89.70	95.69	- 3.21	1.32
Cash Accum Units	104.72	104.72	+ 0.07	4.50
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
20 Finsbury St, London EC2Y 9AQ 071 614 2700				
Balanced	144.20	147.60T	+ 0.20	1.56
Ldr Ptflio	91.89	93.59T	+ 1.13	3.54
Cap Ptflio	149.30	152.00	+ 1.30	0.62
General Opps	133.10	135.50	+ 0.50	3.50
Growth Inc	31.17	31.76	+ 0.09	1.19
Private Portfolio	421.01	439.90T	+ 0.90	1.42
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Admin: PO Box 2000, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XR Enq: 071 454 1454 Dlg: 0277 264 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	114.90	121.30	+ 1.40	0.32
Far Eastern	187.30	201.50	- 1.00	...
High Income	22.59	24.06T	+ 0.23	10.39
Gtess Income	100.00	107.00	+ 0.10	2.61
UK Growth	117.40	125.60	+ 0.80	0.88
US Emerging	151.95	162.65	+ 0.74	0.47
US Smaller Cos	306.30	327.50	+ 3.60	...
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
1 Walker Street Yard, London SE1 0NX 071 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	50.06	53.26	- 0.30	3.86
-do- Inv Tst Acc	78.06	83.06T	+ 0.28	3.72
Intl Growth	94.15	99.76	+ 0.34	0.55
Investment Trust	92.77	98.69T	+ 0.07	0.22
UK Smaller Cos	87.78	93.38	- 0.29	1.18
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3TT 071 374 4100				
American Growth	57.53	61.77T	+ 0.80	...
(Accum Units)	57.83	61.77T	+ 0.80	...
Amer Equity Cos	520.50	559.60	+ 9.20	...
(Accum Units)	531.70	568.60	+ 9.20	...
Capital Tst	334.20	353.40F	- 2.70	1.30
(Accum Units)	472.80	502.90F	- 1.00	1.30
Cmnl Sunlit Cos	64.36	68.50	+ 0.41	0.11
(Accum Units)	64.56	69.50	+ 0.44	0.11
Convertible	142.30	151.30	- 0.80	4.50
(Accum Units)	291.70	288.20	- 1.40	4.50
Emerging Markets	87.10	93.60	- 1.40	...
(Accum Units)	84.94	90.74	- 0.38	...
European	119.90	127.40	+ 1.90	0.02
(Accum Units)	125.00	132.80	+ 1.50	0.02
Extra Income	134.00	142.40	+ 0.10	0.29
(Accum Units)	199.50	331.30	+ 0.40	3.29
Financial	123.20	132.60	+ 0.70	0.40
(Accum Units)	128.90	138.80	+ 0.80	0.40
Gilt Trust	66.14	68.20	- 1.32	5.77
Global Growth	87.37	90.39	- 1.31	0.47
Health Fund Inc	146.20	156.10	+ 1.40	...
(Accum Units)	146.20	156.10	+ 1.40	...
Income & Growth	203.20	216.10	+ 1.60	3.52
Equity High Inc	294.40	313.10	+ 2.30	3.32
Intl Growth	389.10	417.90	+ 3.00	...
(Accum Units)	432.10	464.10	+ 3.60	...
Japan & Gen	202.60	217.90	+ 1.70	...
(Accum Units)	205.60	220.10	+ 1.80	...
Managed Income Inc	134.30	143.10	+ 0.80	0.58
(Accum Units)	115.40	121.40	+ 0.30	0.58
Monthly Income	175.90	187.10	+ 0.30	3.33
Quarterly Income	36.35	39.94	+ 0.23	4.18
(Accum Units)	38.11	41.81	+ 0.24	4.18
Recovery	372.90	398.70	+ 5.10	0.08
(Accum Units)	438.70	469.10	+ 6.10	0.08
UK Growth	53.46	57.03	+ 0.45	2.42
(Accum Units)	53.46	57.03	+ 0.45	2.42
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts Dealings: 0722 41 4242 Admin: 0722 41 422				
FP Equity Dist	391.09	419.05	+ 2.93	2.36
-do- Accum	806.77	858.27	+ 2.28	2.36
FP Euro Gth Dist	133.50	142.02	+ 1.77	0.32
-do- Accum	138.65	147.50	+ 1.84	0.32
FP Fixed Int Dist	137.26	145.97	+ 1.30	5.95
-do- Accum	241.11	255.06	+ 2.30	5.95
FP Intl Gth Dist	94.48	100.51	+ 0.26	0.36
-do- Accum	98.35	104.63	+ 0.28	0.36
FP Nth Amer Dist	198.04	206.61	+ 2.59	0.53
-do- Accum

Wolves reveal impressive shortlist

QPR manager in contention for post at Molineux

BY KEITH PIKE

GRAHAM Taylor remains favourite to become the next manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers, despite the emergence of Gerry Francis as a candidate for one of the most attractive jobs in football.

Francis, the unsettled Queens Park Rangers manager, discussed the vacancy with Jonathan Hayward, the Wolverhampton chairman, yesterday after Richard Thompson, the Rangers' chairman, had given the first division club permission to speak to him. Bryan Robson, the Manchester United and former England captain, will also hold talks with Hayward tomorrow.

"This is a plum job, and it shows how far the club has come with the calibre of people we have got interested in the job," Hayward said. "It is something of a balancing act: we would like to get someone in the next seven days if we can, but we have to balance that with the need to get the right person.

"It is going to be the most important decision I will make for the club. We are aware of some of the responses from fans to the name of Graham Taylor, and their views will be taken into account.

"My father [Sir Jack Hayward, the Wolverhampton president] has always said that despite the amount of his personal fortune he has put into the club, that it belongs to the supporters and to the town of Wolverhampton, but we have to be big enough to appoint the right man."

Hayward's comments, and the fact that Francis is under contract to Rangers until the end of the season, would seem to make the appointment of Taylor, the former England manager, still the most likely option. The vacancy arose when Graham Turner resigned on Wednesday.

Mike Smith, who was unexpectedly appointed manager of Wales on Thursday night after John Toshack's resignation, is hoping to name David Williams, the Everton assistant manager and former Wales caretaker manager, as his No 2.

Terry Venables, the England coach, has decided not to seek the release of David Platt, his captain, from Sampdoria for the international match against Germany next month. Platt is wanted by his club for the final of the Italian Cup.

For the first time this season, the battle to avoid relegation from the Premiership moves to centre stage. A series of crucial encounters between the struggling clubs begins



Francis: interviewed

today when Manchester City meet Sheffield United at Maine Road, with City then visiting Oldham Athletic next Saturday.

City's dreadful run, which continued with their home defeat by Wimbledon a week ago, has revived speculation about the future of their manager, Brian Horton. Yesterday he received support from Dave Bassett, his rival manager this afternoon, who reacted angrily to reports that these stories emanated from the City board.

"This is not my idea of how to produce team spirit," Bassett said. "It puts the manager and everyone else under more pressure by making it a very tense situation. I wouldn't expect my board to say, 'If we don't win this game then Bassett goes'."

Horton is under no illusions about the position City are in, with Oldham only three points behind them with two games in hand, and Sheffield United two points further adrift. He has, however, been battle-hardened in his years as a player with Luton Town and Brighton, and as a manager with Oxford United.

"I've never been relegated in my life and I haven't started twitching yet," he said yesterday. "I'm not losing sleep. I was in the Luton team that won here on the last day to avoid relegation, and that was the last day of my contract. That's pressure.

"At Oxford, we had to beat Tranmere to stay up when all our players had been put up for sale when Robert Maxwell died. If we win this game and beat Oldham next week, everything has completely changed."

Recently, though, City have not looked like getting a win from anywhere. Normally in that situation, when managers talk about going back to basics, it means taking a leaf out of the Wimbledon coaching manual, but Horton insisted that his way of escape is to play football.

"The one thing that David Pleat and Alan Mullery, the managers at Luton and Brighton instilled was that even to stop up, you had to play the right way," he said.

In consequence, this week has been spent concentrating on the passing and attacking virtues.

Birmingham City have rejected a £600,000 bid from Norwich City for Steve Claridge, the forward they signed from Cambridge United for about half that fee two months ago. John Sheridan, the Sheffield Wednesday midfield player, has withdrawn from the Republic of Ireland squad for the match against Russia next Wednesday because of a thigh injury.

Kilcline takes alternative medicine

Rob Hughes reports on the treatment that seems to be speeding recovery from injury

The link between the sick and professional sportsmen and women is often one way. The Bryan Robson Scanner Appeal, the Bryan Gunn Leukaemia Fund, to name but two examples. Today, for once, it may be reversed.

That will happen at the County Ground, Swindon, if, as planned, Brian Kilcline is able to put his massive frame into Swindon's defence against Manchester United.

Kilcline is sorely needed. Without him Swindon conceded seven goals at Newcastle last week and now they face Cantona, Giggs, Hughes and company.

Kilcline's absence was brought about by a fracture to one of the small bones in a foot, bringing down one of the most physically intimidating players in the game. It was four Saturdays' ago, against Norwich City, that he broke, without realising it, a bone on the outside of the arch of the foot.

Now, in far less time than the doctor expected, he has declared himself fit. And if his optimism is supported, the Swindon physiotherapist, Kevin Morris, accepts that the cure is down to the use of an oxygen chamber which stands on a trading estate in Swindon.

"I don't know a lot about it," Morris said. "This chap who deals with multiple sclerosis victims made us a kind offer, and with the amount of injuries we have at the club, we will try anything."

Kilcline went into the metallic tank at the trading estate on five occasions and stayed there for one-and-a-quarter hours a session, as lonely as a deep-sea diver in a compression chamber, breathing pure oxygen, and thinking only of recovery and "helping the lads", before time for the team runs out.

The football thinking is that Swindon with Kilcline, purchased from Newcastle for £90,000 on January 21, were turning the corner, having taken seven points out of 12 from four matches. In his absence came the deluge.

PAUL McFEGAN



Kilcline appears to have made a rapid recovery from a broken bone in his foot

The medical theory behind the "hyperabaric therapy unit" is that the oxygen stimulates the blood supply and speeds up the bonding process in the broken bone. "Obviously it has worked in Brian's case," Morris said. "I had him down to come back at the earliest a week or a fortnight from now." The least surprised at Swindon is the assistant manager, David Hay, who was at Celtic, where they have had a similar £35,000 unit for three years, and where it is claimed the torn medial ligament in the knee of Paul McStay, the Scottish international midfield player, was repaired in two months instead of four.

Queens Park Rangers are also believers. Ray Wilkins has been in the chamber after breaking a leg, Les Ferdinand has been a frequent user, from injuries including a torn groin muscle to back problems. Their machine is the property of London Scottish, the rugby football club, so evidently the treatment has followers across the sporting disciplines.

Back to this afternoon. Kilcline may not be the most mobile of men, at 6ft 2in and well over 12 stone, and has done service for Notts County, Coventry, Oldham, Newcastle and now Swindon — over 400 games since 1980. That and training probably amounts to more than 20,000 miles, and the broken bone, one of 26 in the foot, has to support many of the explosive movements of football — running, twisting, leaping.

Whether or not the oxygen has done what no known drug or substance can do — shorten the healing process — it is relatively safe. Even if Kilcline were to break the bone again, he has taken less

He has taken less risk in his haste to be fit than by using pain-killing drugs

risk in his haste than sportsmen and women take virtually every week, every day, in allowing themselves to be injected with pain-killing drugs.

They, surely, are the most iniquitous drugs in sport. They are legal yet are designed to mask nature's warning signal, pain, in an attempt to enable an unfit athlete perform.

It is almost the norm in sport to use them. Why do doctors use them? They listen to club managers, they take the money and try to make the footballer run. Marco van Basten, arguably the greatest goalscorer of his time, has not been able to kick a ball since May last year when, injected from hip to toe, he attempted to play for Milan in the European Cup final. "It cannot make sense to keep trying to play on injections," Van Basten now says.

It never was, not for man, nor woman. At the 1968 Olympics in Mexico, Mary Rand collapsed with searing pain in an Achilles tendon. She allowed herself to be injected four times, she tried to jump for gold, she left the track on crutches.

Clark proves her fitness to play on

BY RICHARD EATON

GILL Clark, who has been advised to consider the possibilities of life after badminton, has firmly signalled her determination to continue at the highest level by becoming England's most successful player at the Yonex All England championships in the National Indoor Arena, Birmingham.

England's most capped woman reached two semi-finals on Friday, a timely retort to those who have been suggesting that at the age of 32 she should think about quitting. Indeed, her 15-9, 3-15, 15-11 win — with partner Julie Bradbury — late on Friday night over Lim Xiaoqing and Christine Magnusson, the European women's doubles champions from Sweden, ranks as one of the finest of her career.

Clark has also gone further than the seedings suggested in the mixed doubles, with Chris Hunt as her partner. They overcame Bradbury and Julian Robertson 5-15, 15-10, 18-15 after three hard games in the quarter-finals. There is little doubt that, despite repeated operations on her knees and recent mobility problems, she feels she is still good enough to go on to the 1996 Olympic Games.

The whisper is that Clark may be omitted from one of the events for next month's European championships — the team will be announced next week — in which case her performances in playing for England while less than fully fit in the world team championships in Glasgow last month may have counted against her.

Steve Butler may also be around longer than expected. England's most successful men's singles player this week has offers on the table from Germany for coaching and marketing jobs when he retires in August. Butler, presented yesterday with the Badminton Writers Association annual award, is now negotiating a deal for a coaching position in England.

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

BIRMINGHAM: Yonex All England Open championships: Men: Singles: Quarter-finals: A Wirianata (Indo) bt F Permadi (Aus) 14-18, 15-4, 15-4; H Susanto (Indo) bt T Stuer-Lauridsen (Den) 15-12, 14-18, 15-7; H Arbi (Indo) bt R Sidek (Mal) 15-1, 15-5; A Kusuma (Indo) bt P-E Hoyer Larsen (Den) 15-10, 15-8. Doubles: Quarter-finals: A Irianto and D Kantono (Indo) bt J Eriksen and C Jakobsen (Den) 15-10, 15-5; R Gunawan and B Supriantio (Indo) bt I Hendra and D Purwosugiono (Indo) 15-3, 11-15, 15-1; R Mainsky and R Subagya (Indo) bt P Axelsson and P-G Jonsson (Swe) 15-9, 18-13; Cheah Soon Kit and Soo Beng Kiang (Mal) bt S Archer and C Hunt (Eng) 15-9, 15-8.

Women: Singles: Quarter-finals: S Susanti (Indo) bt Ra Kyun-Min 11-5, 11-2; Bang Soo-Hyun (S Kor) bt Han Jingna (China) 11-8, 11-6; Ye Zhaoying (China) bt Y Kanjika (Indo) 12-11, 11-7; C Martin (Den) bt Liu Yuhong (China) 11-4, 11-8. Doubles: Quarter-finals: Jang Hye-Ock and Shim Eun-Jung (S Kor) bt Finarelli and L Tampi (Indo) 15-4, 18-14; Chung So-Young and Gil Young-Ah (Kor) bt E and R Zelin (Indo) 15-7, 15-8; L Olsen and L Stuer-Lauridsen (Den) bt G Gowers and J Wright (Eng) 15-2, 15-11.

Mixed doubles: Quarter-finals: J Holst-Christensen (Den) and R Tendaen (Indo) bt C Jakobsen and L Olsen (Den) 15-5, 15-4; C Hunt and G Clark (Eng) bt J Robertson and J Bradbury (Eng) 5-15, 15-10, 18-15; P-G Jonsson and M Bengtsson (Swe) bt M Sogaard (Den) and G Gowers (Eng) 15-11, 15-10; N Ponting and J Wright (Eng) bt J Paulsen and R Olsen (Den) 15-8, 15-9.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Thames Valley Tigers 88 (Scantlebury 23, Holley 20, Lloyd 18) Birmingham Bullets 80 (Thomas 17, Hamell 14); London Towers 102 (Bowers 20, Moore 16) Oldham Celtics 68 (Merrifield 20, Sapp 16); Derby Bucks 89 (Misher 19, Mandt 13, Landell, Gardiner 9) Leicester Riders 78 (Harris 21, Waldron 19, Treavant 18).

EUROPEAN CLUBS: CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-finals: Elas Pilsen (Tur) 62 Barcelona 75 (Barcelona win 2-1 on agg); Panathinaikos (Gr) 87 Limoges (Fr) 73 (Panathinaikos win 2-1 on agg); Olympiakos (Gr) 65 Bologna 62 (Olympiakos win 2-1 on agg).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Miami 115 Dallas 98; New York 105 Milwaukee 83; Seattle 107 Minnesota 82; Houston 112 Golden State 99; Denver 102 Los Angeles Clippers 99.

BIATHLON

CANMORE, Alberta: World Cup finals: Women's 15km: 1, U Disl (Ger) 47min 30.6sec (1 target missed); 2, M Beckard (Ger) 48:50.3 (3); 3, N Santer (It) 49:01.5 (4).

BOWLS

RUSHCLIFFE, Nottingham: Men's home international series: Ireland 116 Wales 84 (Ireland skips first: S Moran bt D Wilkins 24-12; R McCune bt L Webley 21-18; S Wylie bt G Jones 20-18; S Allen lost to R Weale 14-15; N Graham lost to J Price 11-15; D Corkill bt J Greenslade 26-15).

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney: New South Wales 412-8 dec (S Lee 104, R Davison 81); Queensland 200 (N Maxwell 4-45). Adelaide: South Australia 489 (G Blewett 214, D Lehmann 157; C Miller 5-82); Tasmania 209-0 (D Hills 98 not out, J Cox 97 not out). Perth: Victoria 118 and 155 (G Allardice 53; B Reid 5-34); Western Australia 112 and 119-5.

EQUESTRIANISM

PARIS: International show: Prix des Ecoliers: 1, Everest Uriels Foal (M Whitaker, GB) 0 faults, 41.60sec; 2, Everest Showdime (N Skelton, GB) 0, 43.06; 3, Loro Piana Special Envoy (R Pessoa, Br) 0, 43.24.

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace 2 Millwall 0.

Late results on Thursday

UEFA Cup: Quarter-finals, second leg: Internazionale 1 Borussia Dortmund 2 (agg: 4-3).

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Wolves 3 Aston Villa 1; Notts Co 2 Derby 0; Leicester 0 Sheffield Utd 0. Second division: Barnsley 0 Manchester City 4; Stoke 0 Rotherham 0; Oldham 1 Mansfield 1.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Allan Lido 3 Ton Pentre 1.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard 1 Chatteris 3.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUES: São Paulo: Corinthians 1 União São João 0; Mogi Mirim 1 America (Rio Preto) 0; Palmeiras 1 Rio Branco 1; Santos 1 Bragantino 0; Novorizontino 1 Santos 0. Rio de Janeiro: Fluminense 2 Bangu 0.

GOLF

ORLANDO, Florida: Men's tournament: First round (US unless stated): 66: N Price (Zim). 68: V Singh (Fiji), G Norman (Aus), L Mize, S Simpson, P Burns. 69: S Lowery, K Triplett, M Sullivan, M Allen, M Springer, T Watson, J Gallagher, G Waite (NZ). 70: G Kraft, L Roberts, J Delsing, B Crenshaw, B Gleason, M Calcavecchia, G Day, P Goydos, B Lohr, A Magee, D Love, M Carnevale, J Haas, D Pohl. British scores: 71: I Woosnam. 74: P Baker, C Montgomerie. 75: A Lyle.

PHOENIX, Arizona: Women's tournament: First round (US unless stated): 67: C Kagel. 68: C Chilemi, K Robbins, V Skinner. 69: L Dawes (GB), P Bradley, C Schreyer, C Johnson, P Sinn. 70: M Nause, L Merten, H Kobayashi (Japan), A Ritzman, S Little, L A Mills. Other British scores: 71: S Strudwick. 72: S Maynor. 73: A Nicholas, H Dobson, K Marshall. 74: P Johnson. 76: P Wright.

HOCKEY

LAHORE: Champions Trophy: Australia 3 Holland 2; Pakistan 3 Spain 1.

DUBLIN: Women's four-nation tournament: Wales 0 United States 4; Ireland 1 Italy 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh 4 Boston 2; New Jersey 6 Buffalo 1; New York Islanders 3 Detroit 1; Quebec 4 Hartford 1; Ottawa 2 San Jose 1.

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland Under-21 12 France Under-21 21 (at Inverleith).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: English Students 22 Welsh Students 29 (at Oxford).

CLUB MATCHES: Cancelled: Abertillery v Cross Keys: Pontypridd v Bristol; Tredegar v Pontypool.

SKIING

VAIL, Colorado: World Cup: Men's super-giant slalom: 1, J-E Thorsen (Nor) 1min 15.82sec; 2, L Kjus (Nor) 1:16.26; 3, H Knaus (Austria) 1:16.40; 4, K Aamodt (Nor) 1:16.42; 5, D Mahrer (Switz) 1:16.45; 6, T Moe (US) 1:16.49; 7, A Skaardal (Nor) 1:16.50; 8, K Rasmussen (US) 1:16.61; 9, F Nyberg (Swe) 1:16.64; 10, M Girardelli (Lux) 1:16.74. Final super-giant slalom placings: 1, Thorsen 280pts; 2, Girardelli 275; 3, Moe 242; 4, Aamodt 207; 5, G Mader (Austria) 202; 6, Skaardal 202; 7, Kjus 194; 8, H Thinid (Austria) 185; 9, Knaus 152; 10, M Wasmeier (Ger) 141. World Cup: 1, Aamodt 1,292pts; 2, Girardelli 1,007; 3 A Tombe (It) 804; 4, Mader 791; 5, Trinkl 701; 6, Moe 650; 7, Skaardal 641; 8, Kjus 627; 9, Thorsen 625; 10, C Mullen (Can) 535.

SQUASH

HULL: International match: England 2 Australia 1. Individual scores: P Marshall lost to B Martin 5-8, 7-9, 9-4, 5-8; C Walker bt R Eyles 9-1, 9-2, 6-9, 1-9, 9-5; S Horner bt S FitzGerald 10-8, 9-6, 1-9, 4-9, 9-0.

GRAMPIAN CHALLENGE: P Nicol (Scot) bt P Marshall (Eng) 15-12, 15-14, 15-14.

SWIMMING

BRISBANE: Women's 100m breaststroke: R Brown (Aus) 1min 8.45sec (Commonwealth record).

LILLE: Men's 50m backstroke: F Schott (Fr) 25.71sec (European record).

TABLE TENNIS

ENGLISH RANKINGS: Men: 1, Chen Xinhua; 2, A Cooke; 3, M Syed; 4, C Prean ; 5, D Douglas ; 6, B Billington ; 7, A Eden. Women: 1, L Lomas; 2, A Hall; 3, A Gordon; 4, S Marling; 5, K Goodall; 6, N Deeton; 7, F Mommessin.

TENNIS

BISHAM ABBEY: LTA under 18 international tournament: Girls: Second round: I Taesch (Fr) bt S Lochrie (GB) 6-1, 6-3; S Pestiaeu (Bel) bt C Soubis (Fr) 7-6, 6-3; E Loit (Fr) bt M Maj (Switz) 6-2, 6-2; E Tikhankina (Russ) bt J Duncan (GB) 6-4, 2-6, 6-1; M Rasmussen (Den) bt J Osman (GB) 6-4, 8-7, 8-4; A Maurismo (Fr) bt F Hearn (GB) 6-2, 6-1; J Dawson (GB) bt N Dechy (Fr) 7-5, 4-6, 7-6; R Vidats (Hun) bt S Turner (GB) 1-6, 6-1, 6-1. Quarter-finals: Taesch bt Pestiaeu 6-1, 6-3; Tikhankina bt Loit 6-1, 7-6; Mauresmo bt Rasmussen 6-0, 6-2; Vidats bt Dawson 6-3, 6-4. Boys: Quarter-finals: J Verlet (Fra) bt S Pongrats (Swe) 6-4, 6-1; M Lee (GB) bt J Perlant (Fr) 7-6, 4-6, 6-3; A Andersson (Swe) bt C Reis (Rom) 6-2, 6-3; L Milligan (GB) bt V Mahaev (Bela) 6-1, 6-2

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THE TIMES

A new competition to brighten the 1994 cricket season

Put your selection talents to the test

THE start of the cricket season is less than a month away and *The Times*, in association with Canon UK Ltd, has joined the Test and County Cricket Board in an exclusive arrangement to produce a game that will keep armchair cricket-lovers happy throughout the season. Play *The Times* First Class XI, and you can use your skills as a cricket selector to win a trip for two to any Test match anywhere in the world next year.

Every run your players make and every wicket they take will count towards your score. Choose your players from the list on the right — batting and bowling averages are on the opposite page — and use the First Class XI bat to record your selection. There are no handicaps, no ratings, no transfer fees, just a test of cricketing knowledge and selection skill. Pick your team, and follow your progress in *The Times*, the paper for cricket.

How to play: Simply pick the team that you think will accumulate the most runs and wickets in the first-class cricket season. We have listed 269 players, all registered with the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), and placed them in the following categories:

Batsmen (numbered 001-113); **all-rounders** (114-156); **wicketkeepers** (157-176) and **bowlers** (177-269).

There are also three secondary categories: **Captains** (18), one from each county; **overseas players** (18), one from each county and **rising stars** (28), promising players as selected by *The Times*.

Your team of 11 must be made up as follows: **five batsmen; one all-rounder; one wicketkeeper; four bowlers.** No other combination will be accepted and players may only be selected as categorised by *The Times*. (For example, Graeme Hick may only be chosen as an all-rounder, not as a batsman). Each player has a number which must be used when selecting him for the game.

TCCB

There are three further restrictions to your selection.

1) In your XI, you must pick one — *and no more than one* — from the list of **captains**. For example, if you pick Alec Stewart (captain of Surrey), he will count as captain and batsman. You may not pick another captain, even from another playing category.

2) You must also pick one — *and no more than one* — of the players listed in the **overseas player** category.

3) You must pick one — *and no more than one* — of the players in the **rising stars** category. Your rising star may be a batsman, all-rounder, wicketkeeper or bowler.

In addition to the 11 players picked for the team, you must select one reserve for each of the primary categories (batsmen, all-rounders, wicketkeeper, bowlers). No captains, overseas players or rising stars may be selected as reserves. These reserves will only become active in the event of a first-choice player being officially declared inactive (for reasons of injury) for the rest of the season by *The Times* First Class XI panel. In that case your reserve will be automatically activated and his score from that moment will be added to the injured player's total. Only one replacement will be allowed in each of the four primary categories. A player declared inactive cannot re-enter the game. Having selected your team, you may give it a name.

How to score: Scores will be measured by the following means: **runs** (the aggregate runs scored by all 11 players); **wickets** (the wickets taken by all 11 players); **wicketkeeping dismissals** (catches and stumpings made by your wicketkeeper).

Each run will count as one point, each wicket as 20 points, each wicketkeeper's dismissal as 20 points (the last two categories will be listed under the heading, wickets). The total of runs and wickets will represent the entrant's total team score. The object of *The Times* First Class XI is to select the 11 players that will accumulate the most points.

In the event of a tie, competitors will be separated by counting the score of their reserves, the highest total winning. If that is insufficient, the score of the rising star will be decisive. If a further tie-break is necessary, the final tied competitors will be asked to pick their player of the season and explain why.

All matches deemed to be first-class by the TCCB (five, four or three days) will count. One-day matches will not count. At the end of each round of matches and each competition period, *The Times* will publish the list of categorised names and their updated aggregate point scores.

How to enter: There are five separate competitions. First, the main competition which runs throughout the 1994 English cricket season and for which entries must be received no later than April 13. Then there are four short competitions covering the matches which take place between **April 13-May 23; May 24-June 27; June 29-August 8; August 10-September 19.**

Entries for the main competition (which may be made by post or by telephone) will also qualify automatically for all four short competitions. Entry details for the individual short competitions (numbers two, three and four) will be published later.

The winners will be the entrants who have the highest points scores after the last match in each competition period and their names will be published in *The Times* with the names and scores of the leading 100 entrants.

You may enter any of the competitions as many times as you like but each entry requires a separate telephone call or original entry form (photocopies will not be accepted). Telephone callers must be aged 18 or over.

Entries, whether made by telephone or mail, will be acknowledged by letter including a computer printout of your team selection and an official scorecard. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

Entering by telephone: The 24-hour telephone lines are open now and close at noon on April 13. When you have selected your team, check what type of telephone you are using. You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You **cannot** enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. Once you have found a Touch-tone telephone, you can enter by dialling **0891 500 181.**

The recorded message will ask you to key in the full set of selections (player reference numbers) for each of your 11 chosen players in the following order: the five batsmen, the all-rounder, the wicketkeeper, the bowlers. You will then be asked to name your reserves (in the same order). Make sure that the numbers you give fall within the range for each category (ie batsmen, 001-113; all-rounders, 114-156; wicketkeepers, 157-176; bowlers 177-269). Make sure you have picked one captain, one overseas player and one rising star in your team. An incorrect entry will be void.

You will then be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) and to record your name, address and daytime phone number. Finally, you will be given an eight-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN).

Entering by post: Each postal application must be made on an original entry form (no photocopies) and accompanied by two first-class stamps (which will be used to acknowledge entry). Send them to ***The Times* First Class XI, 4a Church Green, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2TP.** Entries must arrive by noon on April 13.

Team names: Competitors may give their teams any name of up to 16 characters although if a name is considered to be in poor taste by the panel, or if that name has already been taken, the competitor's surname will be used.

***The Times* First Class XI panel:** Ray Illingworth, the new chairman of the England Committee, Michael Atherton, the England captain, and Alan Lee, the cricket correspondent of *The Times*, form the panel which has final authority on any issues arising.

Junior competition: the game is open to postal entries from readers under the age of 18 and there will be a separate schools competition. Details will be announced later.

THE TIMES

To enter by phone: call

0891 500181

Calls cost 36p a minute cheap rate, 48p a minute at other times. Calls last around 6 minutes.

FIRST CLASS XI

Your Personal Identification Number

Code Name

BATSMEN (001 - 113)

ALL-ROUNDER (114 - 156)

WICKETKEEPER (157 - 176)

BOWLERS (177 - 269)

RESERVES

BATSMAN

ALL-ROUNDER

WICKETKEEPER

BOWLER

TEAM NAME

(up to 16 characters)

CHECK THAT YOU HAVE SELECTED

One captain ☐ One overseas player ☐

One rising star ☐

In association with Canon

To enter by post (please use block capitals)

NAME .....

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AGE IF UNDER 18 ..... TELEPHONE No. .....

Send your entries to: Times First Class XI

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Batsmen (001-113)

Pick five players and a reserve from this category

001 ..... * C J Adams (Derbyshire)
002 ..... J C Adams (Nottinghamshire)
003 ..... G F Archer (Nottinghamshire)
004 ..... Asif Din (Warwickshire)
005 ..... M A Atherton (Lancashire)
006 ..... C W J Athey (Sussex)
007 ..... R J Bailey (Northamptonshire)
008 ..... K J BARNETT (Derbyshire)
009 ..... M R BENSON (Kent)
010 ..... D J Bicknell (Surrey)
011 ..... T J Boon (Leicestershire)
012 ..... P D Bowler (Derbyshire)
013 ..... N E BRIERS (Leicestershire)
014 ..... B C Broad (Gloucestershire)
015 ..... A D Brown (Surrey)
016 ..... D Byas (Yorkshire)
017 ..... J D Carr (Middlesex)
018 ..... P A Cottey (Glamorgan)
019 ..... G R Cowdrey (Kent)
020 ..... R M F Cox (Hampshire)
021 ..... J P Crawley (Lancashire)
022 ..... M A Crawley (Nottinghamshire)
023 ..... T S CURTIS (Worcestershire)
024 ..... * J A Daley (Durham)
025 ..... * W A Dessaur (Nottinghamshire)
026 ..... D B D'Oliveira (Worcestershire)
027 ..... N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)
028 ..... N A Felton (Northamptonshire)
029 ..... N A Folland (Somerset)
030 ..... A Fordham (Northamptonshire)
031 ..... G Fowler (Durham)
032 ..... * J E R Gallian (Lancashire)
033 ..... M W GATTING (Middlesex)
034 ..... G A GOOCH (Essex)
035 ..... P Grayson (Yorkshire)
036 ..... K Greenfield (Sussex)
037 ..... J W Hall (Sussex)
038 ..... T H C Hancock (Gloucestershire)
039 ..... R J Harden (Somerset)
040 ..... A N HAYHURST (Somerset)
041 ..... D L Haynes (Middlesex)
042 ..... * D L Hemp (Glamorgan)
043 ..... S G Hinks (Gloucestershire)
044 ..... G D Hodgson (Gloucestershire)
045 ..... * A J Hollioake (Surrey)
046 ..... N Hussain (Essex)
047 ..... * S Hutton (Durham)
048 ..... R C Irani (Essex)
049 ..... S P James (Glamorgan)
050 ..... P Johnson (Nottinghamshire)
051 ..... M Keech (Hampshire)
052 ..... S A Kellett (Yorkshire)
053 ..... N V Knight (Essex)
054 ..... A J LAMB (Northamptonshire)
055 ..... M N Lathwell (Somerset)
056 ..... W Larkins (Durham)
057 ..... D A Leatherdale (Worcestershire)
058 ..... N J Lenham (Sussex)
059 ..... J J B Lewis (Essex)
060 ..... * N J Llong (Kent)
061 ..... G D Lloyd (Lancashire)
062 ..... J I Longley (Durham)
063 ..... M B Loye (Northamptonshire)
064 ..... M A Lynch (Surrey)
065 ..... M P Maynard (Glamorgan)
066 ..... A A Metcalfe (Yorkshire)
067 ..... T C Middleton (Hampshire)
068 ..... A J Moles (Warwickshire)
069 ..... T M Moody (Worcestershire)
070 ..... H MORRIS (Glamorgan)
071 ..... J E Morris (Durham)
072 ..... R S M Morris (Hampshire)
073 ..... M D MOXON (Yorkshire)
074 ..... M C J NICHOLAS (Hampshire)
075 ..... T J G O'Gorman (Derbyshire)
076 ..... D P Ostler (Warwickshire)
077 ..... * T L Penney (Warwickshire)
078 ..... P R Pollard (Nottinghamshire)
079 ..... P J Prichard (Essex)
080 ..... M R Ramprakash (Middlesex)
081 ..... J D Ratcliffe (Warwickshire)
082 ..... R B Richardson (Yorkshire)
083 ..... * D D J Robinson (Essex)
084 ..... P E Robinson (Leicestershire)
085 ..... R T ROBINSON (Nottinghamshire)
086 ..... A S Rollins (Derbyshire)
087 ..... M A Roseberry (Middlesex)
088 ..... A C H Seymour (Worcestershire)
089 ..... N Shahid (Essex)
090 ..... * B F Smith (Leicestershire)
091 ..... I Smith (Durham)
092 ..... R A Smith (Hampshire)
093 ..... N J Speak (Lancashire)
094 ..... A W Smith (Surrey)
095 ..... D M Smith (Sussex)
096 ..... M P Speight (Sussex)
097 ..... A J STEWART (Surrey)
098 ..... N R Taylor (Kent)
099 ..... V P Terry (Hampshire)
100 ..... G P Thorpe (Surrey)
101 ..... S P Titchard (Lancashire)
102 ..... * M E Trescothick (Somerset)
103 ..... R G Twose (Warwickshire)
104 ..... * M P Vaughan (Yorkshire)
105 ..... D M Ward (Surrey)
106 ..... T R Ward (Kent)
107 ..... R J Warren (Northamptonshire)
108 ..... A P WELLS (Sussex)
109 ..... C M Wells (Derbyshire)
110 ..... * W P C Weston (Worcestershire)
111 ..... J J Whitaker (Leicestershire)
112 ..... * M G N Windows (Gloucestershire)
113 ..... A J Wright (Gloucestershire)

All-rounders (114-156)

Pick one player and a reserve from this category

114 ..... M W Alleyne (Gloucestershire)
115 ..... I D Austin (Lancashire)
116 ..... P BAINBRIDGE (Durham)
117 ..... D J Capel (Northamptonshire)
118 ..... * G Chapple (Lancashire)
119 ..... D G Cork (Derbyshire)
120 ..... R D B Croft (Glamorgan)
121 ..... A C Cummins (Durham)
122 ..... K M Curran (Northamptonshire)
123 ..... A Dale (Glamorgan)
124 ..... P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)
125 ..... J E Emburey (Middlesex)
126 ..... K P Evans (Nottinghamshire)
127 ..... M A Feltham (Middlesex)
128 ..... M V Fleming (Kent)
129 ..... P J Hartley (Yorkshire)
130 ..... * G R Haynes (Worcestershire)
131 ..... G A Hick (Worcestershire)
132 ..... C L Hooper (Kent)
133 ..... R K Illingworth (Worcestershire)
134 ..... K D James (Hampshire)
135 ..... S R Lampitt (Worcestershire)
136 ..... R P Lefebvre (Glamorgan)
137 ..... C C Lewis (Nottinghamshire)
138 ..... G W Mike (Nottinghamshire)
139 ..... Mushtaq Ahmed (Somerset)
140 ..... P J Newport (Worcestershire)
141 ..... C Penn (Kent)
142 ..... M Prabhakar (Warwickshire)
143 ..... D A REEVE (Warwickshire)
144 ..... G D Rose (Somerset)
145 ..... P V Simmons (Leicestershire)
146 ..... N M K Smith (Warwickshire)
147 ..... P A Smith (Warwickshire)
148 ..... * J N Snape (Northamptonshire)
149 ..... F D Stephenson (Sussex)
150 ..... J P Stephenson (Essex)
151 ..... C M Tolley (Worcestershire)
152 ..... Wasim Akram (Lancashire)
153 ..... M WATKINSON (Lancashire)
154 ..... V J Wells (Leicestershire)
155 ..... * P N Weekes (Middlesex)
156 ..... C White (Yorkshire)

Wicketkeepers (157-176)

Pick one player and a reserve from this category

157 ..... A N Aymes (Hampshire)
158 ..... R J Blakey (Yorkshire)
159 ..... K R Brown (Middlesex)
160 ..... N D Burns (Somerset)
161 ..... B N French (Nottinghamshire)
162 ..... M A Garnham (Essex)
163 ..... W K Hegg (Lancashire)
164 ..... G J Kersey (Surrey)
165 ..... K M Krikken (Derbyshire)
166 ..... S A Marsh (Kent)
167 ..... C P Metson (Glamorgan)
168 ..... P Moores (Sussex)
169 ..... P A Nixon (Leicestershire)
170 ..... K J Piper (Warwickshire)
171 ..... S J Rhodes (Worcestershire)
172 ..... D Ripley (Northamptonshire)
173 ..... * R J Rollins (Essex)
174 ..... R C Russell (Gloucestershire)
175 ..... C W Scott (Durham)
176 ..... R J Turner (Somerset)

Bowlers (177-269)

Pick four players and a reserve from this category

177 ..... J A Afford (Nottinghamshire)
178 ..... C E L Ambrose (Northamptonshire)
179 ..... S J W Andrew (Essex)
180 ..... A M Babington (Gloucestershire)
181 ..... M C J Ball (Gloucestershire)
182 ..... A A Barnett (Lancashire)
183 ..... S R Barwick (Glamorgan)
184 ..... S Bastien (Glamorgan)
185 ..... * J D Batty (Yorkshire)
186 ..... J E Benjamin (Surrey)
187 ..... W K M Benjamin (Hampshire)
188 ..... P J Berry (Durham)
189 ..... M P Bicknell (Surrey)
190 ..... I R Bishop (Derbyshire)
191 ..... J Boiling (Surrey)
192 ..... M Broadhurst (Yorkshire)
193 ..... S J E Brown (Durham)
194 ..... M A Butcher (Surrey)
195 ..... A R Caddick (Somerset)
196 ..... J H Childs (Essex)
197 ..... C A Connor (Hampshire)
198 ..... N G B Cook (Northamptonshire)
199 ..... K E Cooper (Gloucestershire)
200 ..... A C Cottam (Northamptonshire)
201 ..... N G Cowans (Hampshire)
202 ..... R P Davis (Warwickshire)
203 ..... M A Ealham (Kent)
204 ..... R M Ellison (Kent)
205 ..... M G Field-Buss (Nottinghamshire)
206 ..... * D P J Flint (Hampshire)
207 ..... M J Foster (Yorkshire)
208 ..... A R C Fraser (Middlesex)
209 ..... O D Gibson (Glamorgan)
210 ..... * E S H Giddins (Sussex)
211 ..... D Gough (Yorkshire)
212 ..... D A Graveney (Durham)
213 ..... F A Griffith (Derbyshire)
214 ..... D W Headley (Kent)
215 ..... E E Hemmings (Sussex)
216 ..... A P Igglesden (Kent)
217 ..... M C Ilott (Essex)
218 ..... P W Jarvis (Sussex)
219 ..... M Jean-Jacques (Hampshire)
220 ..... * R L Johnson (Middlesex)
221 ..... M S Kasprowicz (Essex)
222 ..... N M Kendrick (Surrey)
223 ..... * D R Law (Sussex)
225 ..... M J McCague (Kent)
226 ..... D E Malcolm (Derbyshire)
227 ..... N A Mallender (Somerset)
228 ..... P J Martin (Lancashire)
229 ..... R J Maru (Hampshire)
230 ..... D J Millns (Leicestershire)
231 ..... O H Mortensen (Derbyshire)
232 ..... A D Mullally (Leicestershire)
233 ..... T A Munton (Warwickshire)
234 ..... A J Murphy (Surrey)
235 ..... J A North (Sussex)
236 ..... G J Parsons (Leicestershire)
237 ..... M M Patel (Kent)
238 ..... R M Pearson (Essex)
239 ..... A L Penberthy (Northamptonshire)
240 ..... * D B Pennett (Nottinghamshire)
241 ..... R A Pick (Nottinghamshire)
242 ..... A C S Pigott (Surrey)
243 ..... * A R K Pierson (Leicestershire)
244 ..... N V Radford (Worcestershire)
245 ..... A R Roberts (Northamptonshire)
246 ..... M A Robinson (Yorkshire)
247 ..... I D K Salisbury (Sussex)
248 ..... K J Shine (Middlesex)
249 ..... R W Sladdin (Derbyshire)
250 ..... G C Small (Warwickshire)
251 ..... D J Spencer (Kent)
252 ..... R D Stemp (Yorkshire)
253 ..... P M Such (Essex)
254 ..... J P Taylor (Northamptonshire)
255 ..... * S D Thomas (Glamorgan)
256 ..... M J Thursfield (Hampshire)
257 ..... T D Topley (Essex)
258 ..... H R J Trump (Somerset)
259 ..... P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)
260 ..... S D Udal (Hampshire)
261 ..... M J Vandrau (Derbyshire)
262 ..... A P Van Troost (Somerset)
263 ..... C A WALSH (Gloucestershire)
264 ..... Waqar Younis (Surrey)
265 ..... A E Warner (Derbyshire)
266 ..... S L Watkin (Glamorgan)
267 ..... N F Williams (Middlesex)
268 ..... J Wood (Durham)
269 ..... G Yates (Lancashire)

CAPITALS denote captains Bold type denotes overseas players * denotes rising stars

Captains
116: P Bainbridge (all-rounder)
008: K J Barnett (batsman)
009: M R Benson (batsman)
013: N E Briers (batsman)
023: T S Curtis (batsman)
033: M W Gatting (batsman)
034: G A Gooch (batsman)
040: A N Hayhurst (batsman)
054: A J Lamb (batsman)
070: H Morris (batsman)
073: M D Moxon (batsman)
074: M C J Nicholas (batsman)
143: D A Reeve (all-rounder)
085: R T Robinson (batsman)
097: A J Stewart (batsman)
268: C A Walsh (bowler, o'seas player)
153: M Watkinson (all-rounder)
108: A P Wells (batsman)

Overseas players
002: J C Adams (batsman)
178: C E L Ambrose (bowler)
187: W K M Benjamin (bowler)
190: I R Bishop (bowler)
121: A C Cummins (all-rounder)
209: O D Gibson (bowler)
041: D L Haynes (batsman)
132: C L Hooper (all-rounder)
221: M S Kasprowicz (bowler)
069: T M Moody (batsman)
139: Mushtaq Ahmed (all-rounder)
142: M Prabhakar (all-rounder)
092: R B Richardson (batsman)
145: P V Simmons (all-rounder)
149: F D Stephenson (all-rounder)
263: C A Walsh (bowler, captain)
264: Waqar Younis (bowler)
152: Wasim Akram (all-rounder)

Rising stars
001: C J Adams (batsman)
185: J D Batty (bowler)
118: G Chapple (all-rounder)
024: J A Daley (batsman)
025: W A Dessaur (batsman)
206: D P J Flint (bowler)
022: J E R Gallian (batsman)
210: E S H Giddins (bowler)
130: G R Haynes (all-rounder)
042: D L Hemp (batsman)
045: A J Hollioake (batsman)
047: S Hutton (batsman)
220: R L Johnson (bowler)
223: D R Law (bowler)
090: N J Llong (batsman)
240: D B Pennett (bowler)
077: T L Penney (batsman)
243: A R K Pierson (bowler)
093: D D J Robinson (batsman)
173: R J Rollins (wicketkeeper)
090: B F Smith (batsman)
148: J N Snape (all-rounder)
255: S D Thomas (bowler)
102: M Trescothick (batsman)
104: M P Vaughan (batsman)
155: P N Weekes (all-rounder)
110: W P C Weston (batsman)
112: M G N Windows (batsman)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Only applications made through The Times First Class XI telephone lines or on the official entry form will be accepted and must be received by the closing date.

2. They must be received by noon on Wednesday, April 13, 1994. There is no limit to the number of telephone applications any person or household may make. The 24-hour lines are open now.

3. Only players published in our The Times First Class XI list will be accepted into our First Class XI competition. Incorrect entries null and void with no refund. No correspondence related to players selected will be entered into. Entries lost or found to be indecipherable will be void.

4. Entries must consist of 15 players (11 first choice and four reserves) from the published list and must include one captain, one overseas player and one rising star as categorised in the list. Of your 11, five must be batsmen, one an all-rounder, one a wicketkeeper and four bowlers. One each of the four reserves must be a batsmen, all-rounder, wicketkeeper and bowler. None of the reserves may be captains, overseas players or rising stars. No player can be picked twice.

5. The Times independent panel of experts will provide updated records of each player's performance on a regular basis.

6. Inaudible or incomplete applications will not be accepted. The computer's record of the entry will be considered to be the entry.

7. The telephone entry method is only open to readers over the age of 18.

8. The first prize will go to the team with the highest total score. If there is more than one entrant with the same total of points, the winner will be decided by tie-break. We will investigate complaints but our decision is final and we will not enter into correspondence regarding the competition.

9. Promotional and explanatory copy relating to The Times First Class XI form part of the terms and conditions for participation.

10. Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at other times. From March 31 calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at other times.

11. Calls should take approximately six minutes.

12. The competition is not open to employees of News International or their agents.

New talent could repay gamble

FIRST CLASS XI COMMENTARY BY SIMON WILDE

A KEY element in selecting a successful First Class XI team will be the choice of a Rising Star. This category of player provides the greatest element of risk: nominate someone who fails to establish, or retain, a place and the points he contributes will be few; choose one for whom 1994 turns out to be the breakthrough season and the rewards will be great — and could be decisive.

Not that the decision is simply dependant on the likelihood of a player coming good this summer. It will also depend on the balance of your side. Of the 27 players in the Rising Star category, 14 are batsmen, eight are bowlers, four all-rounders, and one is a wicketkeeper.

Once you have established what type of player you are looking for, it then depends on what sort of risk you want to take. Perhaps you will prefer to play safe and choose a Rising Star who played regularly for his county last season and might be expected to hold down an established place in the side this summer.

Players such as Chris Adams, of Derbyshire; Jeremy Batty, of Yorkshire; James Daley and Stewart Hutton, of Durham; Edward Giddins, of Sussex; Nigel Llong, of Kent; and Trevor Penney, of Warwickshire.

Adams, 23, scored 818 runs in 16 championship matches last season and more than 900 runs in the competition the season before that. Similarly, Penney, who is the oldest of the Rising Stars at 25, has also scored over 750 championship runs in the past two years. These two might be reasonably expected to continue such productivity with the bat, if not substantially improve on it.

Daley and Hutton can anticipate extended runs in the Durham side, as can Llong with Kent, for whom he had made only a handful of appearances before accumulating 810 championship runs at an average of 42 last year.

Batty (20 wickets in 13 matches) and Giddins (28 in 14) enjoyed only modest success with the ball in the championship last summer but both are only 22 and may be ready to capitalise on their early experiences.

Alternatively, you may prefer to choose a Rising Star who is less certain of a regular place in his county side but who has already displayed his pedigree at first-class level. Glen Chapple, an all-rounder, and Jason Gallian, a batsman, who is eligible for Lancashire after his season with Oxford University, both fit this description. So too does David Hemp, a Bermuda-born left-hand batsman, who finished last season impressively for Glamorgan.

Then again, you may prefer the riskiest strategy of all: selecting a player with scarcely any county experience but whose unquestioned class has already been recognised at representative level. Michael Vaughan and Marcus Trescothick, two batsmen, Robert Rollins, a wicketkeeper, Darren Thomas and Danny Law, two fast bowlers, all played for England Young Cricketers against West Indies last season.

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Lack of enterprise by South Africa

Australia strike brighter tempo in final session

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN CAPE TOWN

NOT until Australia went in to bat immediately after tea was there much sign of life in the second Test match here yesterday. South Africa had edged their way from 237 for five, their overnight score, to 361 all out, as intent upon protecting the lead they took in Johannesburg in the first Test match as extending it. Australia, with time to make up, bustled along until Slater was caught in the gully, and had reached 112 for one, by close of play.

It is going to be a difficult match for either side to win. The pitch will see to that, being slow, flat and built to last. However, there are three days left, and should Australia be 50 or so runs ahead by tonight, with wickets intact, there would still be time for things to happen.

With the chairman and chief executive of their board on hand, the Australians had to be on their best behaviour in the field, and they did not, accordingly, seem quite themselves. Hughes, especially, was unnaturally subdued, rather like a buffalo full of sleeping pills. As lively as any of Australia's faster bowlers was McGrath, perhaps because he is the freshest of them.

After trapping Peter Kirsten in his first over yesterday, given out leg before to a turning leg break, Warne bowled with wonderful accuracy; but he is missing the easier pickings of an Ashes series.

For the first hour of the match, on Thursday, the scoring rate exceeded five runs an over. For the remaining 8½ hours of South Africa's innings, it was a pretty dismal 2.2 an over. They became increasingly unambitious. McMillan, a strong man with plenty of strokes, batted 4¼


Warne: hard-worked

hours for his 74. He kept peppering the fielders without doing anything to avoid them. South Africa's running between the wickets was also dilatory, which was surprising with as enterprising a cricketer as Mike Procter as their coach. Time and again they settled for ones or twos where greater urgency might have produced twos or threes. It implied from early on that they were preoccupied with survival.

Kirsten's was the only wicket to fall during the morning. He had played better than in the first Test and more than well enough to suggest that he will not go short of runs in England this summer, playing on pitches he knows so well.

In him, Robin Smith, Allan Lamb, Jimmy Cook, Vincent van der Bijl, Clive Rice and a mature Procter, South Africa would have had more than a nucleus of a fine side even in the 1980s, had they not become the pariahs they did.

When, at last, South Africa were all out, it was time for tea. McMillan had eventually played on to Warne, who also had a swishing de Villiers caught at slip. Richardson has become a very useful cricketer — a competent wicketkeeper and improving batsman. He and McMillan had added 75 for the seventh wicket, as Hughes plugged away in vain and Warne tore his hair out, able to beat the bat quite regularly with his leg break but desperate for more bounce and pace in the pitch.

For most of South Africa's innings yesterday Warne was bowling from one end or the other, more sparing with the flipper and the googly than in England last summer, but still the likeliest wicket-taker.

☐ Viv Richards may be sued by Denton, the Cheshire League club, after deciding not to play for them this year. Denton believed they had a commitment from him and have been angered by his decision to retire completely from competition. "We kept asking him for a personal letter, rather than one from his agent, to confirm he would be with us but he insisted that his word was good enough," Steve Marsland, the club secretary, said.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A C Hudson run out 102
G Kirsten run out 28
W J Cronje b McGrath 2
*K C Wessels c M E Waugh b McDermott 11
P N Kirsten lbw b Warne 70
J N Rhodes lbw b McGrath 5
B M McMillan b Warne 74
†D J Richardson lbw b McDermott 34
C R Matthews not out 7
P S de Villiers c Taylor b Warne 7
A A Donald c Healy b McGrath 7
Extras (lb 6, nb 7) 13
Total 361

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-71, 2-78, 3-100, 4-189, 5-198, 6-260, 7-335, 8-339, 9-348.

BOWLING: McDermott 27-8-60-2; Hughes 20-1-80-0; McGrath 28.1-4-65-3; S R Waugh 9-3-20-0; Warne 47-18-78-3; M E Waugh 10-3-23-0; Border 6-2-9-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater c P N Kirsten b de Villiers 26
M A Taylor not out 57
D C Boon not out 26
Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 1) 3
Total (1 wkt) 112

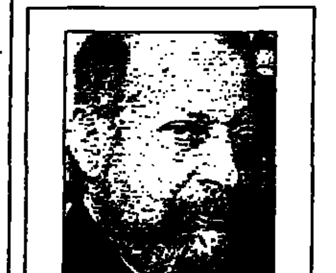
M E Waugh, *A R Border, S R Waugh, †I A Healy, S K Warne, M G Hughes, C J McDermott and G D McGrath to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-40.

BOWLING: Donald 11-3-34-0; de Villiers 11-3-38-1; Matthews 6-1-17-0; McMillan 7-1-18-0; G Kirsten 1-0-3-0.

Umpires: K E Liebenberg (South Africa) and D R Shepherd (England).

Viewing exotic mixture



CLEMENT FREUD

In Guyana

They were all together in the breakfast room of the Pegasus Hotel: Atherton and Richardson, Russell and Murray, Fletcher and Kanhai. Them and us. I wondered whether perhaps the Christians and the lions were accommodated in the same hostelry behind the Colosseum. It had rained during the night. Rain is our best chance of emerging from this game within shouting distance of our opponents — first rain, then our batting, then our bowling.

Rain surprised me, because on the way from the airport my taxi driver had pointed to the sickle moon and said: "If it is clear, so will the weather be." Soon after the driver's forecast we hit a pothole, the cab juddered, I flew from the back to land beside him. Bad road, I opined.

"That is a new pothole. I never seen him before. There should be a minister for potholes, it is all we have lots of."

At the Bourda, apart from a bit of sogginess on the scoreboard side of the wicket — sog that was taken up by two persistent groundsmen with a towel — the pitch was in good shape. The sun came and went. The heat and humidity remained. Attendance was minimal, atmosphere subdued though outside the gates there was much action with vendors trying to unload all manners of Bajun fried nasties comprising fish, flesh, fowl and much much more.

The only crowded enclosure was the press-box, bulging with the good men of our publications and theirs. The odd one wore blazer collar and tie — to look respectable before the cameras. The rest of us were a sartorial disgrace: creased trousers and crumpled shirts.


Russell on his way to scoring 13 at the Bourda yesterday after an innings full of nervous energy

One of the local tabloids — the Stabroek News — carried the column bylined Naughty Eavesdropper. NE is a gossip columnist, tittle-tattle from the Test. Who insulted whom, who said what, who ate too much roti and chips. I considered making an offer for the column, thought better of it.

Live cricket lacks the immediacy of the televised game but does allow the spectator to concentrate in depth on what he wants to see. I watched Jack Russell. I am a Jack Russell fan, have long admired the antics of our odd-ball wicketkeeper, and his arrival at the crease 35 minutes into the day did not disappoint. Russell — who, according to legend, travels with his own supply of baked beans and corned beef, is a teetotal, reclusive painter — came to the middle radiating fearsome nervous energy. He does the soft-shoe shuffle, indulges in a brief bout of shadow boxing, walks this way and that, looks in that direction and the other. As the bowler runs up he shuffles forward, back, essays a shot, tries a short run — decides against it. Around this time the ball is delivered. He comes down on it with total concentration, it goes to point, he looks at square leg and raises his hand to inform Lewis that this is not a run. The score nudges towards 350, which our gurus believe will make the game safe, only to get his glove in the way of an Ambrose ball. He is brilliantly caught. Busily he gathers himself together and scuttles off to the pavilion like a fieldmouse.

The scoreboard, which has bypassed the white heat of technology, is operated by tall thin men with long black hands. It shows that batsman No 8 is out for 15. A knowledgeable man comes to the press-box to tell us that it should be 13. I expect Naughty Eavesdropper will tell us who was at fault.

Barnes has no time for yardage charts of young men

FROM MEL WEBB IN SINTRA, PORTUGAL

IF YOU are looking for a slice of avuncular homespun philosophy on matters golfing, there is no need to search further than Brian Barnes. Uncle Brian was in full spate yesterday, when he dropped a few *bons mots* in the laps of the younger generation after showing he could still play the game as well as talk about it by shooting a 67 to put himself firmly on the leaderboard in the Portuguese Open at Penha Longa.

Barnes is rising 49, but his advancing years are no impediment to his ability to be a contender in the ever more competitive world of the PGA European Tour. When it comes to pointing gently barbed comments in the direction of his youthful opponents, indeed, they are a positive advantage.

Barnes, whose total of 136, six under par, put him one shot off the pace being set by Retief Goosen and Phillip Price, and alongside Carl Mason and Jean Van de Velde, has long been a campaigner against slow play. He once completed a round of 69 in the Open at Royal Birkdale in 1hr 58min, and in spite of being in the company of Magnus Sunesson and Daniel Silva, who were hacking the ball all over the place, he did not loiter yesterday, either.

"A lot of the youngsters these days put pressure on themselves by taking so long," he said. "These days everything is done for them — once you've got your yardage, all you've go to do is decide which club and how hard to hit it.

"When I was a young man yardage charts hadn't even been thought of. We used to eyeball it, but it didn't stop us from getting a move on."

Barnes has always believed golf is a game as well as a job, a fact not always apparently appreciated by some of the tunnel-visioned tyros of the Nineties.

A former self-confessed alcoholic, who now runs a profitable sideline by marketing small bottles of pre-mixed hooch, he said he had thought of spiking the bright young things' hot dogs with some of his patent pick-me-ups. "At least it might make them smile a bit," he said. He was joking, of course. Or was he?

LEADERS AFTER TWO ROUNDS (GB and Ireland unless stated): 135: R Goosen (SA), 69, 66; P Price, 64, 71. 136: B Barnes, 69, 67; J Van de Velde (Fr), 68, 68; C Mason, 67, 69. 137: P Eales, 66, 71; R Rafferty, 69, 68. 138: M-A Jiménez (Sp), 70, 68, G Orr, 68, 70; C Rocca (It), 65, 73; I Garrido (Sp), 69, 69. 139: L Westwood, 69, 70; M Miller, 71, 68; S Struver (Ger), 68, 71; S Bottomley, 67, 72; D J Russell 69, 69. 140: P Walton, 70, 70, G J Brand, 69, 71; D Gilford, 71, 69; T Price (Aus), 72, 68; E Romero (Arg), 69, 71, M Besanceney (Fr), 69, 71, M Clayton (Aus), 66, 74; T Levet (Fr), 70, 70; A Bossert (Switz), 71, 69; R Claydon, 74, 66; H Clark, 67, 73; P Fowler (Aus), 72, 68; G Brand Jr, 67, 73; R Karlsson (Swe), 70, 70; A Forsbrand (Swe), 71, 69; G Ralph, 71, 69.

IN BRIEF

Burt loses ski and crashes out of slalom

RICHARD Burt, of Britain, crashed out of the B3 slalom in the Paralympic Games in Lillehammer yesterday when he ended his race schedule trying to cross the finish line on one ski (Alix Ramsay writes).

Burt's bindings gave way, causing him to lose a ski three gates from the finish. He is taking next year off to ponder his future.

Ban on captain

HOCKEY: Germany will face Great Britain in the Champions Trophy tournament in Lahore today without their captain. Christian Blunck, banned for misconduct during the German-Australia match on Thursday. A Pakistan umpire was jostled by members of Blunck's team.

Helping hand

CRICKET: Fred Titmus, the former Middlesex and England off spinner, is advising Surrey's spinners during preseason preparations. Titmus is coaching England teams as part of the Whittingdale sponsorship.

Kirui dropped

ATHLETICS: Ismael Kirui, the world 5,000 metres champion, has been dropped from the Kenya team for the Budapest world cross-country championships on March 26.

Quick Whitaker

EQUESTRIANISM: Michael Whitaker, riding Everest Uriels Foal, had a convincing win in the opening speed class of the Paris International Horse Show yesterday, beating his compatriot, Nick Skelton, by 1.48sec.

Skinner ahead

GOLF: Val Skinner, from Nebraska, overtook the first-round leader, Caroline Keggi, a late starter, in the early stages of the second day's play in the Standard Register Ping tournament at Moon Valley, Arizona.

Butler's target

CYCLING: Gethin Butler is seeking a record third successive victory in the Porthole Grand Prix time trial around Windermere tomorrow. His main rival could be the former Commonwealth champion, Paul Curran.

Still on course

YACHTING: ENZA New Zealand is on course for a nonstop round-the-world record. The co-skippers, Peter Blake and Robin Knox-Johnston, have little more than 4,000 miles to cover in 18 days.

Batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
C J Adams	18	30	0	843	175	28.10	1	7	—
J C Adams	1	1	0	15	15	15.00	—	—	—
J A Afford	14	17	8	50	11	5.55	—	—	—
M W Alleyne	18	34	2	994	142*	31.06	3	2	—
C E L Ambrose	13	15	2	197	38	15.15	—	—	—
S J W Andrew	11	14	4	75	18	7.50	—	—	—
G F Archer	6	9	2	208	59*	29.71	—	1	—
Asif Din	6	9	0	291	66	32.33	—	3	—
M A Atherton	19	32	1	1364	137	44.00	3	9	—
C W J Athey	17	30	5	1600	137	64.00	5	9	—
I D Austin	2	3	0	31	20	10.33	—	—	—
A N Aymes	19	29	11	709	107*	39.38	1	5	34/5
A M Babington	7	9	3	40	23	6.66	—	—	—
R J Bailey	18	30	5	1282	200	51.28	2	9	—
P Bainbridge	19	32	2	1150	150*	38.33	2	7	—
M C J Ball	4	8	0	113	71	14.12	—	1	—
A A Barnett	19	23	7	157	38	9.81	—	—	—
K J Barnett	16	24	5	1223	168	64.36	5	5	—
S R Barwick	12	11	3	60	23*	7.50	—	—	—
S Bastien	5	5	5	23	14*	—	—	—	—
J D Batty	15	19	2	221	50	13.00	—	1	—
J E Benjamin	17	26	7	128	23	6.73	—	—	—
W K M Benjamin	9	13	0	294	83	22.61	—	2	—
M R Benson	15	23	2	913	107	43.47	3	6	—
P J Berry	9	14	4	232	46	23.20	—	—	—
D J Bicknell	19	35	2	1418	190	42.96	4	8	—
M P Bicknell	12	19	2	398	57	23.41	—	2	—
R J Blakey	19	32	2	859	95	28.63	—	5	41/5
J Boiling	9	13	5	100	28	12.50	—	—	—
T J Boon	18	29	1	921	110	32.89	2	5	—
P D Bowler	17	29	3	1123	153*	43.19	2	7	—
N E Briers	12	19	1	487	79	27.05	—	3	—
B C Broad	18	34	0	1161	131	34.14	2	7	—
M Broadhurst	1	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—
A D Brown	19	34	3	1382	150*	44.58	3	4	—
K R Brown	18	24	6	725	88*	40.27	—	5	36/6
S J E Brown	16	24	5	152	31	8.00	—	—	—
N D Burns	13	23	2	479	102*	22.80	1	2	37/4
M A Butcher	6	11	3	218	68*	27.25	—	1	—
D Byas	19	33	3	1073	156	35.76	1	9	—
A R Caddick	16	26	4	318	35*	14.45	—	—	—
D J Capel	5	8	2	102	54	17.00	—	1	—
J D Carr	17	24	6	848	192*	47.11	2	3	—
G Chapple	8	13	7	256	109*	42.66	1	—	—
J H Childs	17	19	11	89	23	11.12	—	—	—
C A Connor	10	11	1	200	59	20.00	—	1	—
N G B Cook	8	9	1	50	18	6.25	—	—	—
K E Cooper	14	25	6	218	52	11.47	—	1	—
D G Cork	16	24	2	606	104	27.54	1	4	—
P A Cottey	19	34	5	1039	105	35.82	2	8	—
N G Cowans	6	5	1	23	14	5.75	—	—	—
G R Cowdrey	12	21	0	478	139	22.76	1	1	—
R M F Cox	6	10	1	204	63	22.66	—	1	—
J P Crawley	20	34	3	1474	187*	47.54	3	8	—
M A Crawley	10	18	2	306	81	19.12	—	1	—
R D B Croft	20	34	7	718	107	26.59	1	2	—
A C Cummins	18	26	2	502	70	20.91	—	4	—
K M Curran	16	23	4	612	91	32.21	—	5	—
T S Curtis	19	32	3	1553	127	53.55	5	8	—
D B D'Oliveira	15	24	0	513	94	21.37	—	3	—
A Dale	20	36	1	1472	214*	39.78	3	7	—
J A Daley	13	22	0	563	79	25.59	—	3	—
R P Davis	14	18	2	184	42	11.71	—	—	—
P A J DeFreitas	21	31	3	465	51	16.60	—	1	—
W A Dessaur	7	10	0	325	104	32.50	1	2	—
M A Ealham	12	16	3	666	85	51.23	—	8	—
R M Ellison	3	4	1	92	88	30.66	—	1	—
J E Emburey	17	21	7	730	123	52.14	2	5	—
K P Evans	10	14	4	231	56	23.10	—	1	—
N H Fairbrother	18	31	4	901	110	33.37	1	4	—
M A Feltham	16	19	4	288	73	19.20	—	1	—
N A Felton	18	30	2	1026	109	36.64	2	7	—
M G Field-Buss	10	14	6	99	20*	12.37	—	—	—
M V Fleming	18	28	4	826	100	34.41	1	6	—
D P J Flint	10	13	5	47	14*	5.87	—	—	—
N A Folland	17	30	3	872	108*	32.29	2	4	—
A Fordham	17	29	1	1052	193	37.57	3	5	—
M J Foster	1	1	0	6	6	6.00	—	—	—
G Fowler	14	24	0	633	136	26.37	1	3	—
A R C Fraser	18	17	2	162	29	10.80	—	—	—
B N French	17	24	3	420	123	20.00	1	1	40/5
J E R Gallian	11	19	3	702	141*	43.87	2	3	—
M A Garnham	17	29	4	694	106	27.76	1	3	34/5
M W Gatting	16	24	4	1132	182	56.60	3	6	—
E S H Giddins	15	19	8	12	4	1.09	—	—	—
G A Gooch	19	35	3	2023	159*	63.21	6	14	—
D Gough	16	24	3	248	39	11.80	—	—	—
D A Graveney	19	28	14	289	32	20.64	—	—	—
A P Grayson	10	17	0	386	64	22.70	—	2	—
K Greenfield	8	12	3	353	107	39.22	1	3	—
F A Griffith	11	14	0	257	56	18.35	—	2	—
J W Hall	9	16	1	390	114	26.00	1	1	—
T H C Hancock	16	28	2	723	76	26.77	—	4	—
R J Harden	18	32	3	1133	132	39.06	3	4	—
P J Hartley	13	21	6	400	102	26.66	1	1	—
A N Hayhurst	14	23	1	669	169	30.40	2	1	—
D L Haynes	15	24	4	793	115	39.65	2	4	—
G R Haynes	9	13	0	383	158	29.46	1	2	—
D W Headley	14	20	7	281	38	21.61	—	—	—
W K Hegg	21	34	9	566	69*	22.64	—	2	49/9
E E Hemmings	15	20	4	78	17*	4.87	—	—	—
D L Hemp	10	19	2	508	90*	29.88	—	5	—
G A Hick	18	30	2	1522	187	54.35	4	7	—
S G Hinks	12	24	1	482	68	20.95	—	3	—
G D Hodgson	14	27	2	1079	166	43.16	2	7	—
A J Hollioake	5	9	0	352	123	39.11	1	2	—
C L Hooper	16	24	2	1304	236*	59.27	3	6	—
N Hussain	20	35	5	1604	152	53.46	7	7	—
S Hutton	10	17	0	469	73	27.58	—	2	—
A P Igglesden	13	13	7	32	10	5.33	—	—	—
R K Illingworth	18	24	8	401	58	25.06	—	1	—
M C Ilott	18	25	5	280	51	14.00	—	2	—
R Irani	2	4	0	44	44	11.00	—	—	—
K D James	17	29	4	694	71	27.76	—	4	—
S P James	18	30	1	828	138*	28.55	1	4	—
P W Jarvis	9	14	1	207	76	15.92	—	1	—
M Jean-Jacques	4	3	2	42	21*	42.00	—	—	—
P Johnson	16	27	1	1099	187	42.26	5	3	—
R L Johnson	1	2	0	8	4	4.00	—	—	—
M Keech	5	10	1	164	35	18.22	—	—	—
S A Kellett	5	9	0	301	85	33.44	—	4	—
N M Kendrick	12	20	5	237	41	15.80	—	—	—
G J Kersey	12	20	2	272	38*	15.11	—	—	34/3
N V Knight	7	13	0	295	94	22.69	—	2	—
K M Krikken	13	18	4	227	40	16.21	—	—	22/5
A J Lamb	18	28	1	1092	172	40.44	2	6	—
S R Lampitt	16	25	2	438	68*	19.04	—	2	—
W Larkins	17	30	3	1045	151	38.70	3	5	—
M N Lathwell	17	31	1	1009	132	33.63	2	4	—
D R Law	3	2	0	11	11	5.50	—	—	—
D A Leatherdale	11	16	2	354	119*	25.28	1	2	—
R P Lefebvre	19	28	3	484	50	19.36	—	1	—
N J Lenham	12	22	1	799	149	38.04	2	5	—
C C Lewis	15	24	2	705	247	32.04	1	2	—
J J B Lewis	13	24	4	736	136*	36.80	1	5	—
N J Llong	18	27	5	943	116*	42.86	2	6	—
G D Lloyd	18	31	2	1095	116	37.75	2	5	—
M B Loye	18	28	3	956	153*	38.24	2	4	—
M A Lynch	15	28	1	666	90	24.66	—	3	—
D E Malcolm	11	14	7	69	19	9.85	—	—	—
N A Mallender	13	16	6	250	46	25.00	—	—	—
S A Marsh	19	27	2	667	111	26.68	1	4	57/4
P J Martin	16	21	7	399	43	28.50	—	—	—
R J Maru	1	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—
M P Maynard	19	32	1	1378	145	44.45	3	7	—
M J McCague	9	11	3	69	22*	8.62	—	—	—
A A Metcalfe	10	16	1	467	133*	31.13	1	3	—
C P Metson	20	31	8	338	25*	14.69	—	—	50/4
T C Middleton	12	22	0	571	90	25.95	—	5	—
G W Mike	8	13	1	240	50	20.00	—	1	—
D J Millns	7	8	3	59	24	11.80	—	—	—
A J Moles	19	34	3	1228	117	39.61	2	8	—
P Moores	19	27	4	583	85*	25.34	—	2	39/5
H Morris	19	35	2	1326	134*	40.18	5	6	—
J E Morris	18	29	1	1461	229	52.17	5	6	—
R S M Morris	8	14	0	372	92	26.57	—	2	—
O H Mortensen	10	14	5	70	29	7.77	—	—	—
M D Moxon	19	33	2	1317	171*	42.48	1	9	—
A D Mullally	17	20	4	132	26	8.25	—	—	—
T A Munton	13	13	5	51	18	6.37	—	—	—
A J Murphy	11	14	10	88	24*	22.00	—	—	—
Mushtaq Ahmed	16	25	0	498	90	19.92	—	3	—
P J Newport	17	26	6	630	79*	31.50	—	6	—
M C J Nicholas	18	29	4	918	95	36.72	—	6	—
P A Nixon	19	28	6	501	113*	22.77	1	3	42/6
J A North	7	11	3	228	114	28.50	1	1	—
T J G O'Gorman	14	21	3	511	130*	28.38	1	2	—
D P Ostler	19	34	3	1052	174	33.93	1	6	—
G J Parsons	18	23	7	405	59	25.31	—	1	—
M M Patel	7	7	3	14	4	3.50	—	—	—
R M Pearson	10	10	1	94	31	10.44	—	—	—
A L Penberthy	9	14	2	164	54*	13.66	—	1	—
C Penn	4	4	0	63	23	15.75	—	—	—
D B Pennett	7	4	2	11	10*	5.50	—	—	—
T L Penney	17	29	6	788	135*	34.26	1	4	—
R A Pick	13	12	4	109	22	13.62	—	—	—
A R K Pierson	18	23	6	238	58	14.00	—	1	—
A C S Pigott	12	13	2	153	52	13.90	—	1	—
K J Piper	10	14	1	183	52	14.07	—	1	14
P R Pollard	19	32	3	1463	180	50.44	3	9	—
P J Prichard	19	36	3	1319	225*	39.96	4	7	—
N V Radford	13	14	5	106	29	11.77	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	17	24	1	883	140	38.39	2	5	—
J D Ratcliffe	19	34	0	999	101	29.38	1	6	—
D A Reeve	17	28	7	765	87*	36.42	—	5	—
S J Rhodes	18	27	3	848	101	35.33	2	2	40/7
R B Richardson	14	23	1	759	112	34.50	1	6	—
D Ripley	18	24	6	398	62*	22.11	—	3	52/4
A R Roberts	10	16	1	119	19*	7.93	—	—	—
D D J Robinson	2	4	0	112	67	28.00	—	1	—
M A Robinson	17	22	10	53	16*	4.41	—	—	—
P E Robinson	18	29	3	526	71	20.23	—	3	—
R T Robinson	18	30	4	1152	139*	44.30	3	7	—
A S Rollins	7	13	4	392	85	43.55	—	2	—
R J Rollins	3	4	1	14	7	4.66	—	—	3/3
G D Rose	17	29	2	865	138	32.03	2	2	—
M A Roseberry	16	28	4	685	185	31.13	1	2	—
R C Russell	19	33	7	863	99*	33.19	—	5	56/7
I D K Salisbury	16	23	5	390	63*	21.66	—	2	—
M Saxelby	12	18	0	558	77	31.00	—	5	—
C W Scott	14	24	3	343	64	16.33	—	2	27/4
A C H Seymour	7	11	1	237	54*	23.70	—	1	—
N Shahid	7	13	1	270	69*	22.50	—	2	—
K J Shine	13	14	5	54	12	6.00	—	—	—
P V Simmons	1	1	0	46	46	46.00	—	—	—
R W Sladdin	9	11	3	131	51*	16.37	—	1	—
G C Small	13	19	4	147	39	9.80	—	—	—
A W Smith	14	23	2	560	68	26.66	—	3	—
B F Smith	11	18	0	263	84	14.61	—	1	—
D M Smith	15	23	1	802	150	36.45	1	4	—
I Smith	6	12	0	192	39	16.00	—	—	—
N M K Smith	18	26	2	420	51*	17.50	—	1	—
P A Smith	10	15	0	253	55	16.86	—	1	—
R A Smith	17	29	2	1253	191	46.40	4	4	—
J N Snape	1	2	0	18	18	9.00	—	—	—
N J Speak	21	35	2	1185	122	35.90	1	8	—
M P Speight	13	22	1	1009	184	48.04	3	5	—
D J Spencer	2	2	0	79	75	39.50	—	1	—
R D Stemp	16	23	6	265	37	15.58	—	—	—
F D Stephenson	14	21	2	538	90	28.31	—	3	—
J P Stephenson	17	32	2	1011	122	33.70	2	4	—
A J Stewart	16	28	1	1094	127	40.51	2	8	—
P M Such	20	27	5	228	54	10.36	—	1	—
J P Taylor	19	22	11	100	21	9.09	—	—	—
N R Taylor	16	26	2	679	86	28.29	—	4	—
V P Terry	19	33	2	1469	174	47.38	4	7	—
S D Thomas	4	7	4	46	16*	15.33	—	—	—
G P Thorpe	17	31	2	1043	171	35.96	3	5	—
M J Thursfield	2	4	2	36	36*	18.00	—	—	—
S P Titchard	5	10	0	237	87	23.70	—	2	—
C M Tolley	18	24	7	381	78	22.41	—	2	—
T D Topley	8	12	1	155	38	14.09	—	—	—
M Trescothick	3	6	0	14	6	2.33	—	—	—
H R J Trump	8	11	8	79	22*	26.33	—	—	—
P C R Tufnell	18	18	6	128	30*	10.66	—	—	—
R J Turner	6	10	1	195	70	21.66	—	1	15/3
R G Twose	11	18	0	224	37	12.44	—	—	—
S D Udal	19	27	2	509	79*	20.36	—	2	—
A P van Troost	14	17	6	108	35	9.81	—	—	—
M J Vandrau	15	23	2	404	58	19.23	—	2	—
M P Vaughan	2	4	0	118	64	29.50	—	1	—
C A Walsh	14	21	3	266	57	14.77	—	1	—
Waqar Younis	13	18	1	214	28	12.58	—	—	—
D M Ward	13	22	1	580	151*	27.61	1	3	—
T R Ward	19	30	1	903	141	31.13	2	3	—
A E Warner	12	14	1	238	95*	18.30	—	1	—
R J Warren	5	6	1	56	37*	11.20	—	—	—
Wasim Akram	13	21	0	516	117	24.57	1	1	—
S L Watkin	19	24	8	204	31	12.75	—	—	—
M Watkinson	19	30	4	1016	107	39.07	2	4	—
P N Weekes	4	5	1	148	47	37.00	—	—	—
A P Wells	18	27	2	1432	144	57.28	6	5	—
C M Wells	3	5	1	198	185	49.50	1	—	—
V J Wells	15	23	2	602	167	28.66	1	2	—
W P C Weston	13	21	2	610	113	32.10	2	1	—
J J Whitaker	18	28	1	925	126	34.25	1	4	—
C White	19	32	6	896	146	34.46	1	4	—
R M Wight	7	11	1	152	54	15.20	—	1	—
N F Williams	14	12	1	146	44	13.27	—	—	—
M G N Windows	2	4	0	138	44	34.50	—	—	—
J Wood	9	17	3	250	63*	17.85	—	1	—
A J Wright	11	21	2	322	75	16.94	—	1	—
G Yates	7	10	6	367	134*	91.75	1	1	—

☐ Catches and stumpings given only for wicketkeepers

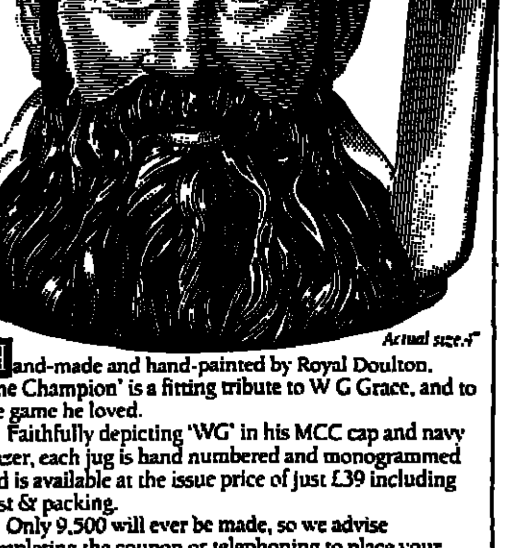
* denotes not out

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	BB	5i	10m
C J Adams	111.2	9	492	5	98.40	2-88	—	—
J C Adams	26	10	66	2	33.00	2-68	—	—
J A Afford	720.5	225	1659	57	29.10	5-64	3	—
M W Alleyne	246.3	50	707	26	27.19	3-25	—	—
C E L Ambrose	543.4	150	1207	59	20.45	6-49	2	—
S J W Andrew	281.4	55	934	28	33.35	7-47	2	—
G F Archer	6.3	0	72	0	—	—	—	—
Asif Din	4	1	12	0	—	—	—	—
M A Atherton	5	0	8	1	8.00	1-8	—	—
C W J Athey	50	7	200	2	100.00	2-40	—	—
I D Austin	31.2	2	133	1	133.00	1-68	—	—
A M Babington	219.2	46	634	13	48.76	3-51	—	—
R J Bailey	244.3	69	612	18	34.00	5-54	1	—
P Bainbridge	333.1	76	1021	40	25.52	5-53	2	—
M C J Ball	157.3	35	439	18	24.38	8-46	2	1
A A Barnett	713.2	177	2005	47	42.65	5-36	3	—
K J Barnett	33	9	78	2	39.00	2-40	—	—
S R Barwick	505.4	206	1016	21	48.38	3-26	—	—
S Bastien	167.3	27	573	19	30.15	6-52	2	1
J D Batty	383.2	97	1065	31	34.35	5-36	1	—
J E Benjamin	624.2	153	1783	64	27.85	6-19	2	—
W K M Benjamin	261.3	81	702	32	21.93	7-83	3	—
P J Berry	200.1	33	648	15	43.20	3-39	—	—
D J Bicknell	1	0	21	0	—	—	—	—
M P Bicknell	502.2	137	1341	67	20.01	6-43	6	2
J Boiling	221.1	60	669	11	60.81	5-100	1	—
T J Boon	8	1	38	0	—	—	—	—
P D Bowler	20	8	45	0	—	—	—	—
B C Broad	1	0	1	0	—	—	—	—
M Broadhurst	1.1	0	7	0	—	—	—	—
A D Brown	1	0	6	0	—	—	—	—
S J E Brown	509	78	1861	47	39.59	7-70	3	—
M A Butcher	134	24	436	15	29.06	4-51	—	—
D Byas	2	0	18	0	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	541	115	1678	63	26.63	9-32	5	3
D J Capel	117.4	37	252	12	21.00	3-15	—	—
J D Carr	10.5	0	73	4	18.25	4-73	—	—
G Chapple	155	34	507	11	46.09	3-60	—	—
J H Childs	709	207	1729	62	27.88	6-37	3	—
C A Connor	261.4	65	803	16	50.18	4-77	—	—
N G B Cook	199.5	68	412	8	51.50	3-34	—	—
K E Cooper	502.4	149	1233	47	26.23	5-83	1	—
D G Cork	398.5	85	1102	37	29.78	4-90	—	—
P A Cottey	7	0	123	0	—	—	—	—
N G Cowans	81	16	234	16	14.62	4-43	—	—
M A Crawley	61.3	14	171	6	28.50	3-86	—	—
R D B Croft	850.5	265	2158	61	35.37	5-112	2	—
A C Cummins	504.3	85	1614	53	30.45	6-115	3	—
K M Curran	458	123	1293	67	19.29	7-47	3	—
T S Curtis	7	2	22	0	—	—	—	—
D B D'Oliveira	55	13	155	5	31.00	3-36	—	—
A Dale	393.1	81	1238	37	33.45	6-18	1	—
R P Davis	479.4	141	1118	36	31.05	7-127	2	1
P A J DeFreitas	651.4	128	1970	60	32.83	7-76	4	1
W A Dessaur	17	2	94	0	—	—	—	—
M A Ealham	281.2	56	917	31	29.58	5-14	2	—
R M Ellison	61	19	169	4	42.25	2-30	—	—
J E Emburey	719.4	226	1401	71	19.73	8-40	2	1
K P Evans	265.3	69	660	25	26.40	6-67	1	—
M A Feltham	327.3	88	905	29	31.20	4-48	—	—
M G Field-Buss	307.3	112	748	28	26.71	6-42	1	—
M V Fleming	422	103	1086	34	31.94	4-31	—	—
D P J Flint	388.2	95	1066	31	34.38	5-32	1	—
M J Foster	17	3	50	3	16.66	3-39	—	—
A R C Fraser	532.4	131	1388	61	22.75	7-40	2	—
J E R Gallian	195	43	585	11	53.18	3-52	—	—
M W Gatting	1	0	4	0	—	—	—	—
E S H Giddins	379	55	1490	29	51.37	5-120	1	—
G A Gooch	36	9	110	0	—	—	—	—
D Gough	507.3	115	1517	57	26.61	7-42	3	1
D A Graveney	579.1	187	1306	38	34.36	5-78	1	—
A P Grayson	5	3	7	0	—	—	—	—
K Greenfield	39	7	136	5	27.20	2-40	—	—
F A Griffith	170.5	29	593	14	42.35	3-32	—	—
T H C Hancock	44	12	136	6	22.66	3-10	—	—
R J Harden	0.3	0	0	0	—	—	—	—
P J Hartley	351.4	91	1027	37	27.75	5-51	1	—
A N Hayhurst	58	19	168	3	56.00	1-13	—	—
D L Haynes	7	1	61	1	61.00	1-61	—	—
G R Haynes	87	18	250	5	50.00	2-29	—	—
D W Headley	439.4	106	1191	42	28.35	7-79	2	—
E E Hemmings	683.2	208	1541	63	24.46	7-31	2	1
G A Hick	203.4	59	603	10	60.30	2-15	—	—
S G Hinks	1	0	2	0	—	—	—	—
A J Hollioake	102.3	17	305	5	61.00	2-75	—	—
C L Hooper	545	126	1281	33	38.81	4-35	—	—
N Hussain	10.3	0	108	1	108.00	1-75	—	—
S Hutton	2	1	1	0	—	—	—	—
A P Igglesden	438.5	111	1068	54	19.77	6-58	3	1
R K Illingworth	645	219	1404	55	25.52	6-28	1	—
M C Ilott	640.4	130	1962	59	33.25	7-85	2	—
R Irani	1	0	6	0	—	—	—	—
K D James	323.2	83	942	36	26.16	4-33	—	—
P W Jarvis	267.4	62	705	26	27.11	4-51	—	—
M Jean-Jacques	52.3	11	181	4	45.25	2-117	—	—
R L Johnson	16	5	58	1	58.00	1-58	—	—
M Keech	52	17	113	5	22.60	2-28	—	—
N M Kendrick	368	113	960	29	33.10	7-115	1	—
S R Lampitt	333	62	1062	34	31.23	3-9	—	—
W Larkins	4	0	18	0	—	—	—	—
M N Lathwell	25	8	73	1	73.00	1-40	—	—
D R Law	63.4	12	216	5	43.20	2-38	—	—
D A Leatherdale	1	1	0	0	—	—	—	—
R P Lefebvre	619.1	177	1379	44	31.34	4-70	—	—
N J Lenham	93	23	255	9	28.33	4-13	—	—
C C Lewis	561.1	122	1619	42	38.54	4-34	—	—
N J Llong	62.2	17	152	4	38.00	3-29	—	—
M B Loye	0.1	0	1	0	—	—	—	—
M A Lynch	1	1	0	0	—	—	—	—
D E Malcolm	336.5	57	1262	41	30.78	6-57	2	—
N A Mallender	329.5	102	772	32	24.12	5-49	1	—
P J Martin	406.5	105	1188	38	31.26	5-35	1	—
R J Maru	30	4	119	1	119.00	1-82	—	—
M P Maynard	6	0	110	1	110.00	1-110	—	—
M J McCague	298.1	67	888	31	28.64	5-33	2	—
T C Middleton	0.2	0	4	0	—	—	—	—
G W Mike	205	42	708	17	41.64	5-65	1	—
D J Millns	184.3	51	584	25	23.36	5-21	2	—
A J Moles	14	2	97	4	24.25	3-87	—	—
P Moores	1	1	0	0	—	—	—	—
J E Morris	6	1	6	1	6.00	1-6	—	—
R S M Morris	0.4	0	1	0	—	—	—	—
O H Mortensen	255	66	643	21	30.61	5-55	1	—
M D Moxon	4	2	7	0	—	—	—	—
A D Mullally	528.1	141	1506	62	24.29	7-72	2	1
T A Munton	334.3	112	740	27	27.40	7-41	1	—
A J Murphy	338.4	81	1043	32	32.59	5-58	1	—
Mushtaq Ahmed	694.3	212	1773	85	20.85	7-91	8	3
P J Newport	546.5	135	1454	60	24.23	6-63	1	—
M C J Nicholas	1	0	4	0	—	—	—	—
J A North	104	14	413	7	59.00	3-32	—	—
D P Ostler	6	1	16	0	—	—	—	—
G J Parsons	490.1	151	1111	45	24.68	3-23	—	—
M M Patel	199.5	52	533	17	31.35	7-75	2	1
R M Pearson	335.3	68	1020	21	48.57	3-61	—	—
A L Penberthy	171	43	522	18	29.00	5-37	1	—
C Penn	142	39	296	12	24.66	4-12	—	—
D B Pennett	172	34	520	17	30.58	5-36	1	—
T L Penney	2.1	0	13	0	—	—	—	—
R A Pick	346	78	1070	25	42.80	5-53	1	—
A R K Pierson	528.5	141	1371	44	31.15	6-87	4	—
A C S Pigott	282.3	44	1001	21	47.66	4-51	—	—
P R Pollard	14	0	135	2	67.50	2-79	—	—
P J Prichard	6	0	77	1	77.00	1-77	—	—
N V Radford	269.5	46	1012	33	30.66	6-49	1	—
M R Ramprakash	8.4	1	39	1	39.00	1-22	—	—
J D Ratcliffe	18.3	3	106	2	53.00	1-6	—	—
D A Reeve	264.1	108	528	22	24.00	3-38	—	—
R B Richardson	7	0	23	1	23.00	1-5	—	—
A R Roberts	289.5	75	760	19	40.00	3-51	—	—
M A Robinson	514	130	1346	49	27.46	8-37	3	1
P E Robinson	14.3	1	91	2	45.50	1-13	—	—
G D Rose	324.3	62	1090	43	25.34	6-83	3	—
R C Russell	1.5	0	15	0	—	—	—	—
I D K Salisbury	616.3	132	2007	54	37.16	5-81	2	—
N Shahid	13	5	28	0	—	—	—	—
K J Shine	296.1	56	1172	24	48.83	6-62	2	—
P V Simmons	18	11	20	0	—	—	—	—
R W Sladdin	326.5	98	1017	23	44.21	3-30	—	—
G C Small	251.4	71	629	21	29.95	4-39	—	—
A W Smith	98	15	387	5	77.40	2-7	—	—
B F Smith	13	4	30	0	—	—	—	—
I Smith	35	7	109	2	54.50	1-10	—	—
N M K Smith	586.1	151	1593	48	33.18	8-122	3	—
P A Smith	130.5	18	505	14	36.07	4-35	—	—
R A Smith	1	0	2	0	—	—	—	—
J N Snape	19.5	2	113	2	56.50	2-49	—	—
D J Spencer	42	8	160	4	40.00	4-48	—	—
R D Stemp	540	188	1207	40	30.17	6-92	2	—
F D Stephenson	397	77	1155	41	28.17	5-55	1	—
J P Stephenson	265.5	52	908	30	30.26	5-31	2	—
P M Such	812	197	2146	76	28.26	6-67	7	3
J P Taylor	646.5	191	1789	69	25.92	6-82	2	—
S D Thomas	141.3	21	556	20	27.80	5-76	1	—
G P Thorpe	77.3	15	270	7	38.57	4-40	—	—
M J Thursfield	43	13	143	5	28.60	4-78	—	—
C M Tolley	442.5	115	1194	42	28.42	5-55	1	—
T D Topley	181.5	41	627	15	41.80	3-15	—	—
H R J Trump	237.4	79	589	15	39.26	4-74	—	—
P C R Tufnell	688.4	189	1529	64	23.89	8-29	3	—
R G Twose	102.2	16	302	11	27.45	4-85	—	—
S D Udal	763.2	183	2232	74	30.16	8-141	5	2
A P van Troost	282	49	1036	31	33.41	5-47	1	—
M J Vandrau	288.4	62	937	16	58.56	2-8	—	—
M P Vaughan	13	4	42	1	42.00	1-23	—	—
C A Walsh	528.2	119	1516	64	23.68	5-59	3	—
Waqar Younis	449.4	89	1407	62	22.69	6-42	4	—
A E Warner	322.5	76	900	41	21.95	5-27	3	1
Wasim Akram	409.2	93	1137	59	19.27	8-68	5	1
S L Watkin	766.4	173	2098	92	22.80	5-71	2	—
M Watkinson	662.5	146	1950	51	38.23	5-12	1	—
P N Weekes	55	7	151	3	50.33	2-55	—	—
C M Wells	33	4	103	4	25.75	2-36	—	—
V J Wells	241.4	66	705	18	39.16	2-5	—	—
W P C Weston	7	0	25	1	25.00	1-13	—	—
C White	130	36	310	15	20.66	3-9	—	—
N F Williams	372	65	1131	39	29.00	6-61	1	—
M G N Windows	1	0	3	0	—	—	—	—
J Wood	192	28	735	16	45.93	4-109	—	—
G Yates	233	46	692	16	43.25	5-108	1	—

☐ Statistics compiled by Richard Lockwood   Source: TCCB/Bull

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Times 19.3.94

An alternative attraction to compete with World Cup

SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

New York will be home to the great sporting event of the year this summer. Already, hotels are booked out, and coach and limousine services are reeling under the demand. They expect thousands of supporters to flood the city: enthusiastic, committed and determined to participate in a festival intended to affirm all that they believe is best in sport and life.

No, not the World Cup. This is the Gay Games, which will involve 40 nations. And it coincides with the World Cup, to the consternation and organisational bewilderment of many. The Gay Games, which includes football, of course, are expected to bring is an many as 500,000 gay and lesbian visitors.

City officials have already been in touch with World Cup organisers and asked if dates for matches could be changed. "We tried to explain that there were consequences beyond the area," Charlie Stillitano, venue director for the World Cup in New York, said. "I don't know if they really understood."

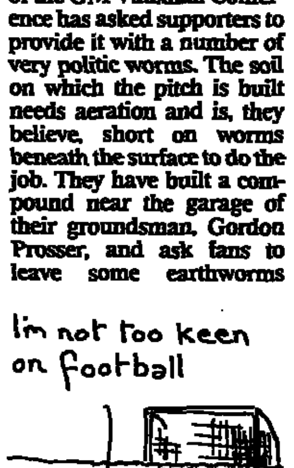
He added: "There are real sensitivities in the city, and the city wants to be very equitable with its coverage and promotion of both events." The Gay Games open on June 18, when Italy play Ireland in the World Cup. They end on June 25, when Morocco play Saudi Arabia in Giants Stadium, near New York.

Dream on, Eric

This week, Eric Cantona's autobiography is launched on to the world under the title of *Cantona: My Story*. English publishers, renowned for the imaginative and creative approach, changed this from the original French title *Un Rêve Modeste et Fou*.

Worms' turn

Yeovil Town Football Club of the GM Vauxhall Conference has asked supporters to provide it with a number of very politic worms. The soil on which the pitch is built needs aeration and is, they believe, short on worms beneath the surface to do the job. They have built a compound near the garage of their groundsman, Gordon Prosser, and ask fans to leave some earthworms there. "If fans have time to dig up a few worms, they would be very gratefully received," a club spokesman said.



Over-familiar

My favourite football league has long been, of course, in the Isles of Scilly, which contains two teams, Garrison Gunners and Woolpack Wanderers. They never get bored with each other. They maintain interest with constant swapping from team to team.

"It's hard to keep track," said Bob Hayes, 39, centre half with the Wanderers, former centre half of the Gunners, and on, and on. "I think I'm with the Wanderers, but it's hard to be sure." Perhaps you think football in such circumstances would be over-amiable and uncompetitive. The other week, two players were sent off after a punch-up.

Dual purpose

The organisers of the American World Cup have come up with yet another bright idea. Their notion of permitting the playing of three substitutes throws the game still more closely to the control of the coach. The substitutions must still include a goalie, but that restriction is only a challenge to the imaginative coach. The Mexican squad will include Jorge Campos as a goalkeeper. Campos has also played at top level as a very effective striker. This adds to the game's tactical possibilities I long to see instigated.

Vision in yellow

My demand last week for back-to-basics green-jersey goalie outfits wins support from Andrew Perry, also weary of those like the migraine-yellow-nightmare worn by David Seaman for England against Denmark. But Mr Perry insists, and rightly, that "the selected guardian of the England onion bag" should wear yellow, and not green. In former times, green was mandatory for Football League goalies; yellow for British internationals. The thing that truly appals me is what the kit manufacturers are working up to for the World Cup. I am convinced they will be seeking the most eyeball-paining outfit ever worn by footballing man.

Going to pot

The taxmen of this country only dream, those of Portugal act. They have seized the home of Porto FC; Das Amtas stadium is now in the steely grasp of the tax people. They need it, they say, to cover a debt of £1 million, for tax and for players' social security payments. The club president, Nuno Punto da Silva, says it is frightfully unfair. "They have even seized the lavatory of the referee," he said. "For our next home game, we will have to provide three *vases de nuit* for the referee and linesmen."

ROBIN MAYES



Oxford have performed well in training to give themselves a big lift in confidence before the women's Boat Race at Henley tomorrow

Palmer aims to put icing on the cake

By Sally Jones

THE large sticky cake in pride of place on the tea table vanishes within seconds and a contented silence descends. It is, say the strapping Oxford oarswomen, a vital part of their psychological training in the run-up to their Boat Race at Henley tomorrow.

It is the one piece of self-indulgence in a day punctuated by a dawn start, gruelling three-hour outings on the Thames, sprints, interval training and an unexciting diet of skinless chicken, tuna, spinach and mounds of pasta.

Oxford, losers for the past two years, believe it is their turn for victory. "We won in 1988 and 1991, so if that pattern continues, this should be our year," Alison Palmer, their president, said. On paper, too, things appear far more even with Cambridge only an average of 5lbs heavier per woman, compared to the 2st advantage they enjoyed last year. Despite the presence of two internationals in their boat, Cambridge do not appear appreciably faster than their rivals and recently lost two practice races to a London University eight whom Oxford had beaten earlier in the week. Palmer, a 21-year-old engineer from New College, shoulders far more responsibility than her male counterpart at Oxford.

The massive sponsorship from Beefeater Gin means that the men's build-up to the Boat Race is done in Rolls-Royce style. In contrast, the women's president must start from scratch each year, cajoling coaches, begging for boats and organising the endless outings, ergometer sessions and training camps.

Even the £5,000 that Beefeater has given to the women's boat clubs for the first time this year will be spent on the sort of basic equipment men take for granted.

At 5ft 7in and 10½ st, Palmer is one of the smallest members of the crew and has considered dieting to reach the 9st 4lb mark that would allow her to trial for the national lightweight squad after the Boat Race. "It's something I'd love to do, but I've been offered a civil engineering job after I leave Oxford and the hours probably won't allow it. So I'm desperate to win this year."

"Daniel Topolski is coaching us in the run-up to the race," she added. "He's had us doing five lots of one-minute sessions of squat thrusts and it's been absolute agony. But it really pays off because whenever our legs start to hurt in a race we know we can cope. We've been through so much worse on land.

"What would winning mean to me? Well, if I had the choice between getting a first and winning the Boat Race I'd take the win any day. Just don't tell my tutors, though."

CAMBRIDGE: Bow, R Gordon (Roseville College, Sydney and Jesus); 2, J Mara (Leeds Girls' HS and Pembroke); 3, K Gill (Range Hill, Liverpool and King's); 4, L Page (Mount, York and St Catharine's); 5, A Rowland (Lady Eleanor Holles and Homerton); 6, A M Moore (St Anthony's RCS, Sunderland and St John's); 7, A Mowbray (Richmond School, North Yorks and Caius); stroke, M Hunter (St Margaret's, Exeter and Emmanuel); cox, K Baker (Friar's, Bangor, and Robinson).

OXFORD: Bow, * A Palmer (Old Palace, Croydon and New College); 2, E Jowitt (Perse School for Girls and Trinity); 3, E Haynes (Malvern Girls' College and Merton); 4, I Grimberg (Prince William Alexander College and St Hilda's); 5, L Callaghan (Boscombe Convent and Linacre); 6, P Eyres (Marlborough and Exeter); 7, L Bannon (Bryanston and Balliol); stroke, * E Ayling (King's, Canterbury and Somerville); cox, * R Craig (Wellington College and New College).

* denotes a blue

Bentt's chin provides Hide with best route to success

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

HERBIE Hide, the Norwich heavyweight, who is unbeaten in 25 bouts, meets his first real opponent tonight, Michael Bentt, of Dulwich, via New York.

The bout at Millwall football ground has been billed as a world heavyweight championship, but despite the trimmings it can be seen as being no more than a British championship, or, at best, a world title eliminator.

The bout is being held under the aegis of the World Boxing Organisation (WBO). That is why, apart from the promoters of the show and managers and trainers of the two boxers, no expert regards the event as a real world championship. The WBO has never had a true world heavyweight champion.

In all his bouts, Hide, who is a blown-up light-heavy, has met no heavyweight of any consequence and as such has little experience of what to expect when facing a good heavyweight. Bentt has had only 12 contests but he is a full heavyweight and is regarded by other top men in the division as a good boxer with world-class ability.

Despite the limitations of the two men, the bout is fascinating. Will Bentt be too big and strong for Hide and knock him out? Will Hide dance and run and seal it on points? Or will he go all out and land a big punch on Bentt's chin, which is suspect?

Bentt does not like to be hit on the chin and the result will depend on how vulnerable it really is. If it can stand up to Hide's best punches, Bentt should know too much for the challenger and in the end, outpoint him. He might even knock out Hide when he stops running round the ring and starts running out of ideas, as he often does, after five or six rounds.

THUNDERER
2.15 Flash Of Realm. 2.45 Kenilworth Lad. 3.15 Armagret. 3.45 Outset. 4.15 Full O'Praise. 4.45 Bonanza.

GOING: GOOD SIS

2.15 BELFORD NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,050: 2m 110yd) (17 runners)

1 0/0 BALLINAMUSIC 10 S Pittendrigh 7-11-10 Mr C Bonner (7)
2 /4/ PIMSBOY 200F (V) G Oldroyd 7-11-8 P Midgley (5)
3 00-P WOLF'S DEN 43 P Spottiswood 5-11-6 F Perratt (5)
4 0FP- DARK MIDNIGHT 473 R Lamb 5-11-4 Mr A Manners (7)
5 1220 FLASH OF REALM 15 (G,S) P Monteith 6-11-4 A Dobbin
6 050 INGLETONIAN 78 B Wilkinson 5-11-4 L Wyer
7 6113 ERICOLIN 8 (D,G,S) N Tinkler 4-11-2 E Husband (5)
8 0F INNOCENT GEORGE 8 Miss L Siddall 5-11-2 J Callaghan
9 5-04 NIGHT OF MADNESS 39 (F) G Richards 7-11-2 B Harding (7)
10 F6-0 LOCAL DEALER 11 D Geraghty 6-10-13 D Byrne
11 F-PP RUPERT STANLEY 7 W Kemp 10-10-13 S McDougall (7)
12 0060 CHOIR'S IMAGE 38 J Eyre 7-10-11 A Mulholland
13 540 MR ABBOT 10 Mrs M Reveley 4-10-10 P Niven
14 4414 KISS IN THE DARK 12F (BF,F) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-9 S Mason (5)
15 5/0- WHAT A CARD 581 R Johnson 6-10-9 K Johnson
16 F4 AMERIGUE 7 D Whillans 4-10-5 P Williams (3)
17 390 TINSTONE 134 S Kettlewell 4-10-2 Mark Roberts (7)

5-2 Ericolin, 7-2 Flash Of Realm, 7-1 Mr Abbot, 8-1 Night Of Madness, 12-1 Kiss In The Dark, 14-1 Amerigue, 18-1 others.

2.45 MATTS BANK NOVICES HURDLE (£1,966: 3m) (6)

1 2221 KENILWORTH LAD 7 (F,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-10 P Niven
2 0 CLARET AND GOLD 39 J Eyre 7-11-4 B Storey
3 0603 D'ARBLAY STREET 7 W Kemp 5-11-4 S McDougall (7)
4 0 GRAND PASHA 49 T Tate 6-11-4 R Garritty
5 2023 MAJORITY MAJOR 68 P Cheesbrough 5-11-4 K Johnson
6 4004 GREAT EASEBY 10 W Storey 4-10-8 A Merrigan

4-6 Kenilworth Lad, 9-2 Majority Major, 5-1 D'Arblay Street, Great Easeby, 16-1 Grand Pasha, 25-1 Claret And Gold.

3.15 ARTHUR STEPHENSON MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£7,068: 3m) (6)

1 -210 COGENT 21 (F,G,S) J Glover 10-12-0 D Font (5)
2 15P6 ARMAGRET 14 (C,F,G,S) B Wilkinson 9-10-6 L Wyer
3 1-36 HE WHO DARES WINS 14 (CD,F,G) P Cheesbrough 11-10-0 C Grant
4 0010 BISHOPDALE 14 (D,F,G,S) S Chadwick 13-10-0 A Dobbin
5 6U4P CAROUSEL CALYPSO 18 (CD,G,S) M Hammond 8-10-0 D Bentley (3)
6 -44F HOUXTY LAD 10 (G) J Charlton 8-10-0 B Storey

6-4 Armagret, 7-4 Cogent, 3-1 He Who Dares Wins, 12-1 Bishopdale, 20-1 Carousel Calypso, 66-1 Houxty Lad.

3.45 NORTHERN CHAMPION JUVENILE HANDICAP HURDLE (£6,938: 2m 110y) (10)

1 1493 RICH LIFE 8 (D,G) C Weedon 11-10 D Font (5)
2 2311 OUTSET 14 (G) M Hammond 11-7 Mr C Bonner (7)
3 1123 LEGAL ARTIST 21 (G) N Graham 11-1 L Wyer
4 3151 DEVILRY 7 (D,S) G Moore 11-0 J Callaghan
5 6213 GENSERIC 15 (D,G) T Tate 10-13 R Garritty
6 5132 BALLON 7 (D,BF,S) M Dods 10-8 B Storey
7 0233 WEAVER GEORGE 17 N Chamberlain 10-6 P Niven
8 026 COMBELLINO 10 (BF) M Hammond 10-4 D Bentley (3)
9 14P8 BAJAN AFFAIR 28 (D,G) Miss L Siddall 10-3 P Williams (3)
10 003U LIAB 4 (BF) J Parkes 10-0 A Dobbin

3-1 Devilry, 7-2 Outset, 5-1 Ballon, 7-1 Genseric, 8-1 Rich Life, 10-1 Weaver George, 12-1 others.

4.15 BELLINGHAM NOVICES CHASE (£2,723: 2m 110y) (7)

1 2251 FULL O'PRAISE 14 (D,F,G) P Calver 7-11-8 L Wyer
2 0005 BE AMBITIOUS 58 S Payne 6-11-2 A Merrigan
3 2233 GOLDEN ISLE 21 (F,G) J Charlton 10-11-2 B Storey
4 UU6F GRAZEMBER 11 P Beaumont 7-11-2 R Garritty
5 5F34 HIGHLANDMAN 11 J Haldane 8-11-2 A Dobbin
6 05P- VICARIDGE 392 R Brewis 7-11-2 G Harker
7 34P0 SUPER SANDY 9 F Walton 7-10-11 K Johnson

9-4 Full O'Praise, 5-2 Golden Isle, 3-1 Highlandman, 5-1 Grazember, 14-1 Vicaridge, 20-1 Super Sandy, 25-1 Be Ambitious.

4.45 ULGHAM HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,827: 2m 4f) (9)

1 3032 BONANZA 7 (CD,BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-11 R Hodge
2 110- HURDY 367 (D,F,G) Mrs S Bramall 7-11-3 Mr D Parker (5)
3 1502 LEADING PROSPECT 52 (G,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 7-10-12 B Storey
4 -300 NORTHUMBRIAN KING 14 (D,F,G) Mrs K Walton 8-10-4 J Callaghan
5 2104 NOTABLE EXCEPTION 8 (C,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-10-2 S Mason (5)
6 -00P TEMPLE GARTH 17 (D,G,S) P Beaumont 5-10-1 C Hawkins
7 -00P FORWARD GLEN 39 (CD,F) P Cheesbrough 7-10-0 K Johnson
8 25-0 MANGROVE MIST 93 (CD,F,G) P Monteith 6-10-0 A Dobbin
9 4220 SUNSET REINS FREE 106 (G) S Payne 9-10-0 L Wyer

3-1 Bonanza, 7-2 Leading Prospect, 4-1 Notable Exception, 7-1 Temple Garth, 8-1 Hurdy, 10-1 Forward Glen, 12-1 Mangrove Mist, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Cheesbrough, 6 winners from 16 runners, 37.5%; G Moore, 17 from 60, 28.3%; P Calver, 3 from 11, 27.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 15 from 71, 21.1%; B Wilkinson, 7 from 34, 20.6%; N Tinkler, 6 from 34, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: D Byrne, 10 winners from 39 rides, 25.6%; C Grant, 35 from 152, 23.0%; P Niven, 20 from 117, 17.1%; L Wyer, 13 from 79, 16.5%; K Johnson, 9 from 56, 16.1%; R Garritty, 5 from 38, 13.2%.

☐ Wootton Rivers is Britain's sole representative in the first Pattern race of the French season, the £22,883 group three Prix Exbury over ten furlongs at Saint-Cloud today.

THUNDERER
7.00 Hit The Canvas. 7.30 Very Dicey. 8.00 SLMAAT (nap). 8.30 Brackenthwaite. 9.00 Second Colours. 9.30 Broughtons Formula.

GOING: STANDARD
DRAW: 6F-1M 1F 79YD, LOW NUMBERS BEST

7.00 RIDGEMOUNT MAIDEN STAKES (£3,202: 1m 1f 79yd) (10 runners)

1 30-2 CHASTIZE 14 R Hollinshead 9-0 L Dettori 5
2 234- HIT THE CANVAS 148 Mrs M Reveley 9-0 K Darley 9
3 00- LYPHARD'S FABLE 151 W Haggas 9-0 T Quinn 6
4 0-04 MYTTON'S CHOICE 33 A Bailey 9-0 D Wright (5) 8
5 NASHVILLE STAR Mrs M Reveley 9-0 G Parkin (7) 1
6 05-4 SHARP SPRING 39 J White 9-0 R Price 2
7 05-4 SPEEDY SNAPS IMAGE 18 M Moggeridge 9-0 K Rutter (5) 4
8 00- LADY TJONGER 135 Dr J Scargill 8-9 J Williams 10
9 563- WILD ROSE OF YORK 138 M Johnston 8-9 J Weaver 3
10 ZACAROON Lord Huntingdon 8-9 D Harrison 7

11-4 Hit The Canvas, 7-2 Chastize, 4-1 Wild Rose Of York, 7-1 Zacaroon, 8-1 Lyphard's Fable, 10-1 Nashville Star, 14-1 Sharp Spring, 16-1 others.

7.30 CORNWALL-LEGH FIRST HOUSE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,243: 6f) (9)

1 050- PLAIN FACT 274 (CD,G,S) J Hills 9-9-1 Paul Eddery 4
2 1011 VERY DICEY 4 (CD,F,G) J Berry 6-8-11 P Roberts (7) 3
3 -563 FARMER JOCK 15 (CD,F,S) Mrs N Macauley 12-8-9 A Clark 7
4 3/0/ SMILING SUN 582 (B,D,G) W O'Gorman 6-8-9 K Darley 1
5 2458 SOBA GUEST 26 (V,CD,F,G,S) J Berry 5-8-7 J Carroll 9
6 3145 SIMMIE'S SPECIAL 12 (B,CD,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-8-6 L Dettori 6
7 0023 STAMSHAW 12 B McMahon 5-8-6 J Bramhill (7) 5
8 0000 TOMMY TEMPEST 14 (B,S) A Bailey 5-8-5 D Wright (5) 8
9 043- EVER SO LONELY 258 (F,S) A Bailey 5-8-4 A Mackay 2

6-4 Very Dicey, 11-4 Plain Fact, 5-1 Simmie's Special, 8-1 Ever So Lonely, 11-1 Soba Guest, 12-1 Stamshaw, 14-1 Farmer Jock, 16-1 others.

8.00 LAZENBY HANDICAP (£3,655: 7f) (8)

1 30-5 MAZEEKA 14 (F,G) M Channon 9-7 T Quinn 8
2 21 P G TIPS 12 (C,G) J Gosden 8-11 L Dettori 4
3 2-61 WILD ACE 25 (D,G) N Graham 8-11 J Weaver 6
4 16-1 SLMAAT 12 (CD,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-10 K Darley 1
5 1213 ALPINE JOHNNY 14 (C,G) R Hollinshead 8-10 S Perks 3
6 1212 KILLING TIME 14 (V,C,G) A Forbes 8-5 S D Williams 2
7 044-HEALTHY RISK 152 M Blanshard 7-13 D Harrison 7
8 65-4SNAKE PLISSKEN 14 A Bailey 7-9 A Mackay 5

9-4 Slmaat, 11-4 P G Tips, 5-1 Wild Ace, 11-2 Alpine Johnny, 7-1 Killing Time, 8-1 Mazeeka, 20-1 Healthy Risk, Snake Plissken.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wolverhampton: 8.30 Brackenthwaite.

8.30 BANQUO HANDICAP (£5,848: 1m 1f 79yd) (9)

1 004- REPORTED 138 (F,S) M Heaton-Ellis 5-10-0 J Carroll 5
2 1211 THEMAAM 12 (C,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-10 Darren Moffatt (5) 1
3 1-34 MENTALASANYTHIN 14 (CD,G,S) A Bailey 5-9-4 A Mackay 2
4 U222 LOWAWATHA 14 (G,S) D Morris 6-9-3 C Hodgson (3) 4
5 -132 ABLE CHOICE 15 (BF,S) R Armstrong 4-9-0 L Dettori 9
6 12-0 LOOKINGFORARAINBOW 64 (D,F,G) Bob Jones 6-8-11 M Wigham 7
7 -056 BRACKENTHWAITE 12 (B,G) T Barron 4-8-3 K Darley 8
8 0143 POP TO STANS 19 (C,F,G) J Pearce 5-7-12 G Bardwell 6
9 0-12 WOLF POWER 4 (BF,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-7-10 L Charnock 3

9-4 Themaam, 5-1 Mentalasanythin, 13-2 Reported, 7-1 Lowawatha, Wolf Power, 8-1 Brackenthwaite, Able Choice, 9-1 others.

9.00 MAIDMENT CLAIMING STAKES (£2,243: 1m 100yd) (11)

1 -606 COME ON DANCER 39 J White 6-9-10 J Williams 9
2 1142 SECOND COLOURS 14 (BF,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-10 K Darley 7
3 0200 EASTLEIGH 56 (D,G,S) R Hollinshead 5-9-8 L Dettori 10
4 2030 AWESTRUCK 18 (D,F,G,S) B Preece 4-9-7 T Wall 3
5 2334 LOVE LEGEND 12 (F,G,S) D Arbuthnot 9-9-6 T Quinn 1
6 0043 DIFFERENT TIMES 12 (S) J Berry 4-9-4 J Carroll 8
7 060/ IVAN THE TERRIBLE 556 (G) Miss S Wilton 6-9-4 A Garth (5) 6
8 000- GREEN'S STUBBS 206J (V,D,F) A Barrow 7-9-3 N Carlisle 4
9 325- LOMBARD SHIPS 137 (D,F,G,S) A Bailey 7-9-3 A Mackay 5
10 040/ CRAB 'N LOBSTER 504 B Preece 4-9-0 S Sanders (5) 2
11 06 EAGLE SKY 18 W Musson 3-8-0 S Lanigan (7) 11

4-5 Second Colours, 5-1 Love Legend, 7-1 Lombard Ships, 8-1 Eastleigh, Awestruck, 12-1 Different Times, 20-1 Come On Dancer, 25-1 Eagle Sky, 33-1 others.

9.30 POG HANDICAP (£3,231: 1m 6f 166yd) (9)

1 112- COLERIDGE 386 (B,CD,F,G) J Sheehan 6-10-0 K Rutter (5) 3
2 /3-5 HAIYSARI 28 (F) C Broad 6-9-0 M Wigham 1
3 3125 MILNGAVIE 21 (CD,BF,F,G,S) M Johnston 4-8-12 J Weaver 8
4 2432 ARC BRIGHT 18 (C,G) R Hollinshead 4-8-12 L Dettori 5
5 0-22 MALAMUTE SALOON 54 (V,G) C Broad 8-8-9 T Quinn 7
6 0513 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 18 (B,CD,G) W Musson 4-8-5 D Biggs 9
7 53-6 CUTTHROAT KID 14 (B) Mrs M Reveley 4-7-11 Darren Moffatt (5) 2
8 3342 WELL AND TRULY 14 (B) B McMahon 7-7-8 A Mackay 6
9 -204 WARREN STREET 26 Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-7-7 N Kennedy (3) 4

4-1 Arc Bright, 9-2 Well And Truly, Coleridge, 5-1 Broughtons Formula, 11-2 Milngavie, 6-1 Malamute Saloon, 10-1 Cutthroat Kid, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Gosden, 3 winners from 5 runners, 60.0%; M Johnston, 8 from 19, 42.1%; Lord Huntingdon, 6 from 20, 30.0%; J Berry, 4 from 28, 14.3%; R Hollinshead, 8 from 60, 13.3%; A Bailey, 4 from 30, 13.3%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 15 winners from 54 rides, 27.8%; L Dettori, 13 from 66, 19.7%; S D Williams, 4 from 21, 19%; J Williams, 6 from 41, 14.6%; G Bardwell, 4 from 29, 13.8%; K Darley, 5 from 40, 12.5%.

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	90	180	good	spring	fair	fine	0	13/3
(All pistes open with good snow cover)								
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	5	110	fair	powder	closed	cloud	4	17/3
(Some fresh snow giving good early skiing)								
Mayrhofen	35	65	fair	powder	closed	cloud	8	18/3
(Some fresh snow on upper slopes)								
Obergurgl	60	130	good	varied	fair	cloud	1	17/3
(Good skiing on new snow, on and off piste)								
St Anton	30	330	good	powder	good	cloud	-1	18/3
(Vastly improved conditions with fresh snow)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	115	300	good	varied	good	fine	4	12/3
(Generally good on all pistes above 1,800 metres)								
Chamonix	10	325	good	powder	fair	fair	6	17/3
(Improved conditions with fresh snow)								
Isola	100	150	good	spring	good	sun	7	1/3
(Good spring skiing though some bare patches)								
Val d'Isère	105	320	fair	varied	slushy	sun	0	17/3
(Varied conditions with high winds)								
Val Thorens	80	250	good	varied	good	fine	-7	18/3
(Good skiing on fresh snow)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	95	110	good	powder	good	sun	-1	18/3
(Excellent skiing after fresh snow)								
C Montana	20	190	fair	varied	worn	fair	6	17/3
(Fresh snow on hard base; best skiing above 2,000 metres)								
Klosters	10	170	good	powder	fair	cloud	4	18/3
(Excellent skiing on and off piste)								
Mürren	35	160	fair	varied	fair	fine	5	17/3
(Schilthorn and Birg skiing well)								
St Moritz	50	230	fair	heavy	worn	sun	5	17/3
(Reasonable piste conditions though windblown)								
Villars	5	150	good	powder	closed	sun	5	17/3
(Good skiing above 1,500 metres after fresh snow)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Atlantic Highway catches eye in Llewellyn's powerful team

Point-to-point by Brian Beel

DAVID Turner's career riding total of 343 winners is unlikely to be exceeded, but it is odds on that by this afternoon the late Major Guy Cunard will have been relegated to third place in the point-to-point riders' table.

John Llewellyn's treble at the Brecon last week brought his total level with Cunard's on 268 and he will be in action today at the **Carmarthenshire**, where he is pencilled in for five or six rides. "The telephone doesn't ring so much these days," Llewellyn said.

When I suggested that about 18 miles of race riding in an afternoon should be more than sufficient for a 47-year-old, Llewellyn replied: "I never think about my age. I've just lambed 200 and that keeps me fit."

One particularly interesting ride for Llewellyn is Atlantic Highway. He was bought as a three-year-old at Goffs for 35,000 guineas and, now a nine-year-old, has yet to see a racecourse. Veterinary bills and keep fees have amounted to about as much again for owner, Graham Roach, but his day has finally arrived and he could have no better jockey. Among Llewellyn's other rides is Chibougama in the restricted. He won the maiden for him at the Brecon last Saturday.

The **Quantock** is one of three meetings staging a Land Rover qualifier and here Woodway and Ah Jim Boy could renew their rivalry. Woodway, a 13-year-old who ran only once last year, to win his members', was staying on steadily in second place when he unshipped his rider at the last in the Duke of Beaufort's open.

The other Land Rover events are at the **South Wold**, where Mick's Tycoon could come out best, and at the **Staff College and RMA Drag Hunt**. One or two of the entries here have been made as a precaution in case their preferred meeting is abandoned, but of those more certain to start, Celtic Flame looks the pick.

The northern qualifier in the Russell, Baldwin and Bright maiden series has been switched to the **Cleveland** today after the abandonment of the South Durham a fortnight ago. The race has been split four ways and from these Green Sheen, in division two, and Smart Pal, in division four, are the preferred choices.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Cambridgeshire, Horseheath, 3m East of Linton, (first race 1.00); Carmarthenshire, Lydstep, 3m SW of Tenby (12.30); Cheshire, Alpraham, 3m SE of Tarporley (1.00); Cleveland, Witton Castle, 3m W of Bishop Auckland (12.00); Dart Vale and Haldon, Ottery St Mary, 1m SW of town (1.00); Eglinton, Bogside, 1m N of Irvine (1.45); New Forest Buckhounds, Larkhill, 3m NW of Amesbury (12.30); Quantock, Williton, ½m E of town (1.30); South Herefordshire, Garnons, 8m W of Hereford (1.30); South Wold, Market Rasen racecourse, (1.30); Staff College and RMA Drag, Tweseldown, 3m W of Aldershot (1.00); West Street Tickham, Detling, 2m E of Maidstone (1.00).

Fakenham

Going: good (last four races soft)

2.20 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Pinecone Peter (M Brennan, 11-4); 2, Sultan's Son (14-1); 3, Swan Walk (33-1). Rasta Man 9-4 fav. 7 ran. NR: Elegant Friend, Sailsong. 5l, 10l. O Brennan. Tote: £2.70; £1.60, £3.90. DF: £14.10. Trio: £37.00. CSF: £24.61. Tricast: £485.26. Elegant Friend (7-2) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction 20p in pound.

2.50 (3m ch) 1, Craigstown (R Davis, 15-8); 2, Spartan Raft (20-1); 3, Micronova (6-1). Le Bucheron 4-6 fav. 4 ran. NR: French Pleasure, Notary-Nowell. 6l, hd. Mrs L Jewell. Tote: £3.10. DF: £6.40. CSF: £18.07.

3.20 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Ardcroney Chief (P Holley, 6-1); 2, Love Anew (3-1); 3, Boston Rover (6-1). Kind'a Smart 13-8 fav. 7 ran. 15l, 3½l. D Gandolfo. Tote: £7.20; £2.80, £1.70. DF: £14.30. CSF: £24.87.

3.50 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Ratify (Mr C Bonner, 7-4); 2, Zealous Kitten (11-8 fav); 3, Brownside Brig (6-1). 5 ran. NR: Royal Circus. 1½l, 20l. K Morgan. Tote: £3.20; £1.30, £1.70. DF: £1.60. CSF: £4.85.

4.20 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Kings Victory (Mrs L Gibbon, 25-1); 2, Heron's Rock (4-5 fav); 3, Spanduley (15-2). 9 ran. 20l, dist. Mrs Julie Read. Tote: £23.80; £4.00, £1.30, £2.40. DF: £61.00. CSF: £46.65.

4.50 (2m 110yd) 1, Wordy's Wonder (R Farrant, 8-1); 2, Moriarty (100-30); 3, Mulled Ale (7-1). Tynron Doon 11-4 fav. 9 ran. 1½l, 8l. L Wordingham. Tote: £7.10; £1.70, £1.70, £1.90. DF: £10.00. Trio: £41.80. CSF: £25.00. Tricast: £185.23.

Placepot: £439.30.

Lingfield Park

Going: good, good to soft in places (last four races good to soft, soft in places) (turf); standard (all-weather)

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Warm Spell (N Williamson, 9-4); 2, Chief's Song (Evens fav); 3, Any Minute Now (25-1). 9 ran. 1½l, 25l. G L Moore. Tote: £3.50; £1.10, £1.10, £1.90. DF: £2.80. CSF: £4.91.

2.30 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE (Qualifier: amateurs: £1,685: 3m)
See facing page

3.00 (3m ch) 1, Hermes Harvest (M A Fitzgerald, 16-1); 2, Ring Corbitts (5-1); 3, Frozen Drop (8-1). Young Brave 3-1 fav. 11 ran. 4l, dist. D Williams. Tote: £26.70; £4.20, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £96.00. CSF: £91.11.

3.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Roger's Pal (D Gallagher, 12-1); 2, Milzig (10-1); 3, Fichu (33-1); 4, Tendresse (3-1 fav). 20 ran. NR: Lucky Oak, One More Pound. ½l, ½l. A Moore. Tote: £14.00; £2.50, £3.10, £19.10, £1.30. DF: £155.00. Trio: not won. CSF: £148.88. Tricast: £3,623.73.

4.00 (2m ch) 1, Soleil Dancer (J Railton, 9-2); 2, Medinas Swan Song (7-1); 3, Access Sun (12-1). Crooked Counsel 5-2 fav. 9 ran. 2l, 10l. D Grissell. Tote: £4.30; £1.70, £2.60, £2.50. DF: £58.00. Trio: £97.40. CSF: £34.13. Trio: £97.40. Tricast: £326.13.

4.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Miss Marigold (A Tory, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Whippers Delight (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Tip Top Lad (9-2). 7 ran. 3½l, 20l. R Hodges. Tote: £4.00; £2.20, £2.40. DF: £4.90. CSF: £14.93.

5.00 (2m) 1, Kalisko (Mr J Durkan, 4-5 fav); 2, Surgical Spirit (14-1); 3, Petite (6-1). 4 ran. 10l, 3½l. O Sherwood. Tote: £2.40. DF: £9.00. CSF: £9.49.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £5,319.39 carried forward to Uttoxeter today).

Placepot: £150.00.

MONDAY: Newcastle (first race 2.15), Plumpton (2.30), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.20).
TUESDAY: Fontwell Park (2.00), Newcastle (2.40), Nottingham (1.50).
WEDNESDAY: Exeter (2.00), Kelso (2.10), Worcester (2.20), Southwell (AW, 2.15).
THURSDAY: Doncaster (2.00), Stratford (2.30), Wincanton (2.15).
FRIDAY: Doncaster (1.35), Newbury (1.55), Ludlow (2.15).
SATURDAY: Doncaster (2.00), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.20), Warwick (2.15), Bangor (2.10), Newbury (1.30), Sedgefield (1.55).
Flat meetings in bold

Southwell

Going: good to soft, soft in places (last three races soft)

2.10 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, General Shot (Diane Clay, 5-1); 2, Megamunch (16-1); 3, Million In Mind (4-7 fav). 10 ran. 15l, 2½l. W Clay. Tote: £2.80; £1.10, £3.80, £1.10. DF: £169.70. CSF: £76.44.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Sharp Dance (M Richards, 7-1); 2, Eastern Pleasure (11-2); 3, Royal Standard (5-1). Queen Of The Quorn 11-4 fav. 10 ran. 2½l, 10l. B Smart. Tote: £6.50; £1.80, £1.40, £3.10. DF: £20.20. CSF: £44.22. No bid.

3.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Sally's Gem (A Maguire, 2-5 fav); 2, Serdarli (10-1); 3, The Lighter Side (11-2). 5 ran. 25l, 15l. J White. Tote: £1.50; £1.30, £1.80. DF: £5.30. CSF: £5.05.

3.40 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Ramstar (A Maguire, 100-30); 2, Centenary Star (3-1 fav); 3, Sirrah Jay (11-2). 6 ran. ½l, 5l. D Nicholson. Tote: £3.00; £8.70, £1.00. DF: £3.50. CSF: £12.68.

4.10 (2m ch) 1, Just Frankie (P Niven, 1-2 fav); 2, Tildarg (2-1). 3 ran (only two finished). 25l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.30. DF: £1.20. CSF: £1.79.

4.40 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, In Truth (C Grant, 7-1); 2, Curtain Factory (11-8 fav); 3, Bentley Manor (3-1). 6 ran. 12l, ¾l. M Hammond. Tote £6.90; £2.40, £1.60. DF: £5.80. CSF: £16.17.

Placepot: £11.40.

☐ Norman Williamson returned from his four-day suspension with a victory on Warm Spell in the Newleaf Maiden Hurdle at Lingfield Park yesterday. The win also sparked a double, completed by Roger's Pal in the Lambert & Foster Selling Handicap Hurdle, for owner Ken Higson.

Doumen keeps The Fellow in National running

By Julian Muscat

THE Grand National picture was more clearly defined by a memorable renewal of the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Thursday. Young Hustler, third in that race, delighted his trainer, Nigel Twiston-Davies, who pronounced his rugged seven-year-old fit, well and on course for Aintree.

Not surprisingly, Young Hustler's National odds dropped like a lead weight after Thursday's showing. He looks temptingly handicapped with just 10st 12lb, yet so too does The Fellow, the first French-trained horse to win the Gold Cup in its 70-year history. He has been allocated 11st 4lb, the same as Chatam, who trailed home last of the 11 finishers at Cheltenham.

However, a decision on The Fellow's participation was no nearer yesterday. His trainer, Francois Doumen, said from Chantilly yesterday it would be "at least a week" before he makes up his mind. There are several militating factors, among them the state of the ground and the speed of The Fellow's recovery from his recent exertions. But the most important may be the stated dislike of the Aintree fences by the horse's owner, Soledad, Marquesa de Moratalla, a somewhat reclusive animal lover who lives in the Basque region of Bayonne in France.

The Gold Cup was The Fellow's principal target for the fourth consecutive season and Doumen will need to be firmly convinced that the horse is in mint condition before making the trip. The early portents are favourable: The Fellow emerged unscathed from his Gold Cup exertions. Furthermore, the horse is well handicapped and the going at Aintree on April 9 is unlikely to be testing, which would be against the nine-year-old.

As for his owner's views on Aintree, they rest exclusively on the reputation of the fences. Like Anne, Duchess of Westminster, who refused to allow Arkle to contest the National, the Marquesa feels the circuit is particularly demanding.

But Peter O'Sullevan, the BBC television commentator who is one of her closest confidants, extended a degree of hope to those who would savour The Fellow's participation. It was O'Sullevan who, on Thursday evening, relayed details of The Fellow's triumph to the Marquesa by telephone at the conclusion of the bridge tournament which detained her in Paris.

"She would view running a horse in the National with some trepidation, although her reservations have become more modified recently," he said. "She knows the course has undergone many modifications in the last 25 years. And recently, the public viewing area has been moved back from Becher's, where the landing side has now been raised. So she recognises it is less fraught than it was."

Asked if the recent improvements might persuade her to agree to a National challenge, O'Sullevan, who owns three horses in partnership with the Marquesa, said yesterday: "I wouldn't think there's a lot about the course that would cause her to put her foot down, although she still has her reservations."

Doumen obviously has the ultimate sanction, but the Marquesa's inhibitions about Aintree may not prove as insurmountable as the fences of old.

Meanwhile, David Barons yesterday declared his Whitbread winner, Topsham Bay, in rude health after he had finished tenth at Cheltenham. "He ran very well but couldn't quicken in the final three furlongs," reflected Barons, who dismissed the suggestion that Topsham Bay faced a stiff task in overcoming The Fellow and Young Hustler.

"The Grand National is a totally different race," he said. "My horse ran for three miles at Cheltenham and can do that for four. Can the others, I wonder?"

Nap: SO PROUD
(4.40 Uttoxeter)
Next best: Taramoss
(3.00 Uttoxeter)

Russell's faith is justified as Avostar prevails

By Brian Beel

BILLY McGill from Ballygowan, co. Down, stayed on after Cheltenham to see Avostar, his former Irish point-to-point winner, run his first race in Britain and was rewarded when the seven-year-old won The Times Rising Stars qualifier at Lingfield yesterday.

After his successes in Ireland last year, McGill sent Avostar to the Doncaster sales, where he was sold for 30,000 guineas only to fail a veterinary examination and have to return home.

"He was no more lame than I was," said McGill, an opinion shared by winning owner-rider Richard Russell. "Billy and I did the deal as we watched the Derby in his kitchen," Russell said.

Avostar led from the second fence and was never headed. At halfway, No Fizz fell as First Harvest and Hobnobber followed Avostar while the disappointing Roving Report lost touch. Mike Felton brought the favourite, Synderborough Lad, into a challenging position five fences out and still looked dangerous between the last two.

Avostar, however, galloped on relentlessly and, after jumping the last, never looked in danger as he readily held Synderborough Lad and First Harvest. Stewart Pike, the owner of Synderborough Lad, reported that the eight-year-old had hated the soft ground.

"If the ground dries, Synderborough Lad will run in the final at Newbury," Pike added. "I have come all the way from Sidmouth and if I'd known the ground was like this, I wouldn't have set off."

Mark Jackson, the rider of First Harvest, described the ground as "awful, like a pudding" but has also not ruled out challenging for the final next Friday.

Richard Russell was delighted to have qualified Avostar while his trainer, Caroline Saunders, is also likely to be represented by Kilfinny Cross, the mount of his owner, Johnny Greenall.

Yesterday's contest was the last of the eight qualifiers and interest will now concentrate on the final. With a weight range from 12st 10lb to 11st 2lb, an open and intriguing race is in prospect.

THE TIMES RISING STARS


HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Avostar, ridden by Richard Russell, leads First Harvest on the way to victory in The Times Rising Stars qualifier

DETAILS

2.30 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE (Qualifier amateurs £1,865: 3m) 1, AVOSTAR (Mr R Russell, 7-2), 2, Synderborough Lad (Mr M Felton, 7-4 fav), 3, First Harvest (Mr M Jackson, 16-1) ALSO RAN: 4 No Fizz (f), Roving Report (5th), 25 Hobnobber (4th). 6 ran. 10l, 8l, 15l, 15l. Miss C Saunders at Northampton. Tote £2.90, £2.30, £1.40. DF: £3.60 CSF: £9.24.

UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

2.00 Rosgill
2.30 General Pershing
3.00 Comedy Spy
3.35 Shraden Leader
4.10 Chichell's Hurst
4.40 Uluru
5.10 Corner Boy

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.40 SO PROUD.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES) SIS

2.00 CENTURION COMMERCIALS CLAIMING HURDLE
(£2,320: 2m) (18 runners)

101 14-0040 BRIGGS LAD 9 (B,CD,F) (Mrs L Farmer) P Dalton 5-11-7 N Mann 70
102 122/P3-0 CASTLE SECRET 23 (F) (P Leonard) D Burchell 8-11-6 Mr D McCain (5) 88
103 2F-P105 NELTEGRITY 9 (CD,S) (R Jones) T Caldwell 5-11-6 Peter Caldwell 84
104 1-43341 STYLUS 16 (D,G,S) (M O'Toole) M Chapman 5-11-4 F Leahy (7) 93
105 00-0453 TEST MATCH 10 (S) (T Thacker) W Clay 7-11-4 Diana Clay 66
106 5-4223F DJEBEL PRINCE 7 (D,B,S) (Elite Thoroughbreds) C Egerton 7-11-3 J Osborne 83
107 034113 KANNDABIL 12 (B,D,G,S) (N McAndrews) N Tinkler 7-11-1 C Llewellyn 93
108 225314 BAND SARGEANT 9 (D,S) (E Madden) G Richards 5-11-0 N Doughty 85
109 330-342 EASTERN MAGIC 66 (D,G) (The Chase Racing Club) G Barnett 6-11-0 L G Arnold (7) 74
110 P543-46 PHILS PRIDE 12 (G,S) (A Bayman) Jimmy Fitzgerald 10-11-0 M Dwyer 92
111 10-6301 ROSGILL 45 (D,F,S) (Brigadier Racing) J White 8-11-0 A Maguire 94
112 0FP-P DALEHOUSE LANE 16 (G Farndon) B Cambidge 6-10-13 Gary Lyons —
113 053120 GLOSSY 16 (D,G) (Ed Weetman Ltd) B McMahon 7-10-13 G Robertson (7) 52
114 00-0P65 MISTY GREY 63 (G Fierro) G Fierro 5-10-13 S Lycett (7) —
115 P31-F26 SCHWEPPES TONIC 14 (D,G,S) (A Phillips) D Burchell 8-10-13 D J Burchell 68
116 256/0P-P SPORTING IDOL 16 (D,F,G) (T K Construction Ltd) J O'Shea 9-10-13 R Walker (7) —
117 300P0P SMART DEBUTANTE 59 (D,F) (Gilberts Animal Feed) Miss S Wilton 5-10-10 T Eley (3) 65
118 1105 DON'T FORGET MARIE 10 (G,S) (G Mytton) A Bailey 4-10-1 A Procter (3) 70

BETTING: 9-2 Kanndabil, 5-1 Stylus, 11-2 Rosgill, 8-1 Band Sargeant, Neltegrity, Test Match, 10-1 others.

1993: WHIPPERS DELIGHT 5-10-9 D Meade (8-1) G Charles-Jones 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

NELTEGRITY 10l 5th of 9 to Taylor's Prince in handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft) with BRIGGS LAD 58l 8th. CASTLE SECRET 2½l last of 3 to Flakey Dove in grade II St Modwen Hurdle here (2m 4f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. STYLUS beat Miss Equilia ½l in 16-runner conditional jockeys selling hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good) with SPORTING IDOL pulled up. KANNDABIL beat SCHWEPPES TONIC (5lb worse off) 2½l in 24-runner claiming hurdle at Leicester (2m, heavy) with CASTLE SECRET (9lb better off) 15½l 9th. ROSGILL beat Auvillar 2l in 9-runner claiming hurdle at Leicester (2m, heavy).
Selection: CASTLE SECRET

2.30 ST MODWEN HANDICAP CHASE (C4)
(£5,313: 2m 5f) (4 runners)

201 461424 GENERAL PERSHING 21 (CD,F,G,S) (J Potter) G Richards 8-12-0 N Doughty 99
202 305-360 ROMANY KING 21 (D,G,S) (U Schwarzenbach) G Balding 10-11-9 Richard Guest 90
203 F6-F50P LUMBERJACK 3 (B,D,G,S) (Elite Racing Club) C Egerton 10-10-10 J Osborne 98
204 P14212 LAKE TEEREEN 22 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs A Grantham) R Rowe 9-10-8 T Grantham 95

BETTING: 6-4 General Pershing, 7-4 Lake Teereen, 3-1 Romany King, 5-1 Lumberjack.

1993: GENERAL PERSHING 7-11-9 N Doughty (100-30) G Richards 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

GENERAL PERSHING 24l 4th of 12 to Master Oats in handicap chase at Kempton (3m 4f 110yd, soft). ROMANY KING 55l 7th of 16 to Antonin in grade III Racing Post Handicap Chase at Kempton (3m, soft). LUMBERJACK pulled up in 18-runner handicap chase won by Elfast at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) on Wednesday. LAKE TEEREEN 15l 2nd of 4 to Bibendum in handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, soft).
Selection: GENERAL PERSHING

3.00 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE FINAL (C4)
(Handicap: £14,395: 3m 2f) (13 runners)

301 2-31221 MASTER JOLSON 29 (F,G) (Mrs E Roberts) D Nicholson 8-12-0 A Maguire 84
302 1FF125 FARDROSS 14 (C,G) (S Racing) K Bailey 8-11-10 N Williamson 85
303 5/4318U YOUR WELL 18 (BF,G,S) (D Newell) J White 8-11-9 B Clifford 80
304 1-P1312 TARAMOSS 14 (S) (H Parker) J Edwards 7-11-8 J Osborne 99
305 U22415 LUCKY LANE 30 (B,D,F,G,S) (R Hamilton) P Hobbs 10-11-5 C Maude 83
306 0-2P282 SUFFOLK ROAD 10 (G,S) (Alpha Financial Futures) R Rowe 7-11-4 N Doughty 80
307 32P-PP1 HILL TRIX 14 (G) (Mrs E Ellis) K Bishop 8-11-2 A Tory 98
308 U2232F COMEDY SPY 8 (BF,S) (Mrs J Burnett) Mrs A Hewitt 10-11-2 M Dwyer 85
309 354P31 HUDSON BAY TRADER 8 (G,S) (P Curtis) P Beaumont 7-11-1 Mrs A Farrell 84
310 PUU015 ONE MORE RUN 14 (BF,S) (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) G Balding 7-10-13 B Powell 94
311 623014 SUPPOSIN 8 (S) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 6-10-9 Richard Guest 85
312 0231F6 DON'T TELL THE WIFE 29 (S) (H & K Commissions) Mrs D Haine 8-10-8 D Bridgwater 90
313 020-146 JOLLY JAUNT 50 (S) (Mrs J Hayward) M Wilkinson 9-10-0 C Llewellyn 86

Long handicap: Jolly Jaunt 9-13.

BETTING: 5-1 Taramoss, 6-1 Fardross, 7-1 Master Jolson, 8-1 Hill Trix, One More Run, 10-1 others.

1993: CATCHAPENNY 8-10-4 S J O'Neill (10-1) M Wilkinson 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

MASTER JOLSON beat Sally's Gem 2½l in novice chase at Fakenham (3m, good) with DON'T TELL THE WIFE distance 4th. FARDROSS beat ellort when beating Ebony Gale 1½l in novice chase at Leicester (3m, good). LUCKY LANE beat Irish Bay neck in novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start with YOUR WELL (4lb worse off) 3l 3rd. HILL TRIX beat TARAMOSS (4lb better off) 3l in 6-runner novice chase at Newbury (3m, good) with ONE MORE RUN (6lb better off) 13l 5th. HUDSON BAY TRADER beat Urizen 15l in novice chase at Market Rasen (3m 1f, good to soft) with SUPPOSIN 40l 4th and COMEDY SPY disputing lead when falling at the last. ONE MORE RUN beat Spikey 10l in novice handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start with LUCKY LANE 20l 5th.
Selection: ONE MORE RUN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	39	120	32.5	N Doughty	13	53	24.5
T Forster	12	37	32.4	J Osborne	21	89	23.6
P Dalton	6	22	27.3	N Mann	8	43	18.6
K Bailey	12	52	23.1	N Williamson	18	99	18.2
Jimmy Fitzgerald	9	42	21.4	L Harvey	6	35	17.1
G Richards	17	88	19.3	C Llewellyn	11	68	16.2

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.35 TETLEY BITTER MIDLANDS NATIONAL (C4)
(Handicap chase: grade III: £32,810: 4m 2f) (15 runners)

401 4FP-21P RIVERSIDE BOY 42 (D,G,S) (Glasgow Partnership) M Pipe 11-11-10 C Llewellyn 94
402 21-5451 SUPERIOR FINISH 39 (G,S) (Dransact Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-12 J Osborne 91
403 3-13635 MISTER ED 14 (CD,F,G,S) (The Talking Horse Partnership) R Curtis 11-10-11 D Morris 90
404 1212-3P INTO THE RED 42 (BF,G,S) (J Hockle) J White 10-10-11 A Maguire 98
405 1-02121 CALLMECHA 27 (B,G,S) (T O'Sullivan) A Leahy (Ire) 9-10-10 M Dwyer 95
406 26P253 MERRY MASTER 21 (F,B,S) (G Lansbury) R Armytage 10-10-7 Gee Armytage 98
407 12/1121 SHRADEN LEADER 14 (G,S) (Mrs D Thompson) K Bailey 9-10-4 N Williamson 90
408 5225F3 ITS A CRACKER 7 (S) (J Berry) J Berry (Ire) 10-10-2 C O'Dwyer 93
409 P-3FUP1 GOLD CAP 48 (S) (Poem Racing) P Hobbs 9-10-2 C Maude 99
410 03-5321 JUST SO 42 (B,D,S) (H Cole) H Cole 11-10-0 S Burrough 84
411 3P-02U2 GLENBROOK D'OR 16 (BF,G,S) (T Leadbeater) A J Wilson 10-10-0 B Clifford 92
412 610503 GREEN TIMES 17 (G,S) (N McGrady) M Cunningham (Ire) 9-10-0 C Swan 82
413 322423 CYTHERE 16 (BF,S) (K Carr) J Gifford 10-10-0 P Hide (3) 80
414 331151 VELEDA II 15 (F,G,S) (L Froomes) Mrs S Bramall 7-10-0 J Burke (5) 80
415 41F4U3 GATHERING TIME 11 (G,S) (Miss V Haigh) J Johnson 8-10-0 Miss V Haigh (7) 69

Long handicap: Glenbrook D'Or 9-12, Green Times 9-7, Cythere 9-6, Veleda II 9-3, Gathering Time 8-7.

BETTING: 3-1 Shraden Leader, 7-1 Into The Red, Superior Finish, 8-1 Mister Ed, Glenbrook D'Or, 12-1 Callmecha, Just So, Riverside Boy, 16-1 Green Times, Merry Master, 20-1 Gold Cap, 25-1 Cythere, Its A Cracker, 33-1 others.

1993: MISTER ED 10-10-3 D Morris (25-1) R Curtis 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

RIVERSIDE BOY beat Fiddlers Pike 20l in 8-runner grade III Coral Welsh National handicap chase at Chepstow (3m 5f 110yd, heavy) with MERRY MASTER falling. SUPERIOR FINISH beat GLENBROOK D'OR (1lb worse off) head in 9-runner handicap chase at Warwick (3m 5f, good to soft). INTO THE RED 7l 3rd of 9 to Moorcroft Boy in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 5f, heavy) on penultimate start. SHRADEN LEADER beat Wheat Fields 3½l in 10-runner handicap chase at Doncaster (3m 4f, good) with MISTER ED (3lb better off) 7¾l 5th. JUST SO beat CYTHERE 3½l in 7-runner handicap chase at Chepstow (3m 5f 110yd, soft) with RIVERSIDE BOY pulled up and INTO THE RED (5lb worse off) pulled up.
Selection: SHRADEN LEADER (nap)

4.10 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE FINAL (C4)
(Limited handicap: £7,068: 2m 5f) (12 runners)

501 P5-2211 RIVER PEARL 8 (G,S) (Mrs A Martin) L Lungo 9-11-10 N Williamson 94
502 112210 NORSTOCK 72 (F,G,S) (N Quesnel) J White 7-11-5 A Maguire 80
503 PFF122 NICKLUP 15 (S) (Lord Cadogan) T Forster 7-11-4 B Powell 85
504 P2FP2U KIWI VELOCITY 30 (G,S) (A Stoddart) P Hobbs 7-11-2 L Harvey 80
505 3P1505 CELTIC SONG 15 (D,G,S) (Miss R Jeffreys) W Reed 7-11-1 Mrs A Farrell 87
506 P-2UF2P CHICHELL'S HURST 54 (S) (Mrs P Sly) Mrs P Sly 8-10-12 A Carroll 89
507 061622 PRUDENT PEGGY 9 (D,S) (Mrs J McCormack) R Frost 7-10-8 J Frost 90
508 0FP-23F OVER THE ISLAND 21 (The Braw Partnership) J Johnson 8-10-7 C Llewellyn 99
509 012FP4 PLAYFUL JULIET 15 (C,G,S) (B Brennan) T Caldwell 6-10-7 Pat Caldwell 95
510 P53365 KETTI 14 (B,F,G,S) (Berkshire Components Ltd) D Williams 9-10-7 C Swan 89
511 6-43B6P POLLERTON'S PRIDE 18 (G,S) (G Greaves) W Clay 7-10-7 D Bridgwater 79
512 0/021 CRUISING ON 9 (S) (Mrs J Goodall) P Dalton 7-10-7 M Dwyer 77

Long handicap: Over The Island 10-5, Playful Juliet 10-4, Ketti 10-3, Pollerton's Pride 10-3, Cruising On 9-8.

BETTING: 7-2 River Pearl, 4-1 Nicklup, 6-1 River Pearl, 8-1 Kiwi Velocity, 10-1 Celtic Song, 12-1 others.

1993: DUBACILLA 7-11-6 D Gallagher (5-1) H Cole 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

RIVER PEARL beat Candy Tuff 1½l in handicap chase at Ayr (2m 4f, good to soft). NORSTOCK beat Maywork distance in novice chase at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. NICKLUP 5l 2nd of 6 to Ginger Tristan in novice chase at Lingfield (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). KIWI VELOCITY 2l 2nd of 7 to Run Up The Flag in novice chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. CHICHELL'S HURST 2l 2nd of 7 to Vayrua in novice chase at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: RIVER PEARL

4.40 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (C4)
(£7,783: 2m 6f 110yd) (18 runners)

601 10-4534 BEAUCHAMP GRACE 42 (S) (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 5-12-0 J Burke (5) 80
602 111-P01 ATTADALE 14 (F,G,S) (C McBride) L Lungo 6-11-8 A Maguire 85
603 F0/2U12 SO PROUD 3 (F,S) (Hon Mrs R Cobbold) M Pipe 9-11-1 C Swan 99
604 2-00P64 HOLY JOE 35 (F,S) (Mrs J Brookes) A J Wilson 12-10-12 B Clifford 93
605 30-1531 SMITH TOO 16 (F,G) (Smith Mansfield Meat Co Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-7 J Osborne 85
606 3-00660 SPROWSTON BOY 14 (F,G,S) (G Whiting) M Chapman 11-10-6 W Worthington 80
607 1215/1-1 FAST THOUGHTS 14 (D,F,G,S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 7-10-5 P Holley 94
608 2U1160 POWLEYVALE 53 (G,S) (M St Quinton) B Rothwell 7-10-3 M Dwyer 80
609 1010-00 DOOLAR 49 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs L Farmer) P Dalton 7-10-2 W Marston 91
610 21/36-45 VICTOR BRAVO 22 (CD,G) (Mrs R Baker) N Gaselee 7-10-0 C Llewellyn 82
611 22-0130 ISABEAU 36 (D,F,G,S) (T Pryke) K Morgan 7-10-0 A S Smith 89
612 5-03512 COUTURE STOCKINGS 8 (C,F,G,S) (Couture Ltd) J Mackie 10-10-0 N Williamson 90
613 1346P5 ULURU 8 (C,G) (P Morgan) C Nash 6-10-0 R Marley 90
614 1P-P3P0 ROCHESTOWN LASS 4 (V,CD,G,S) (Miss C Perkins) P Dalton 8-10-0 N Mann 80
615 2P5110 THE GOLFING CURATE 40 (S) (Poem Racing) R Rowe 9-10-0 C Burnett-Wells (5) 82
616 142-044 ARR EFF BEE 126 (B,G) (P Wheeler) J Smith 7-10-0 B Powell 74
617 0-84046 SIR CRUSTY 18 (F,G,S) (M Ash) O O'Neill 12-10-0 P Maddock (7) 63
618 40-0064 MR TAYLOR 8 (F,S) (H Collingridge) H Collingridge 9-10-0 V Smith 61

Long handicap: Isabeau 9-13, Couture Stockings 9-13, Uluru 9-13, Rochestown Lass 9-11, The Golfing Curate 9-11, Arr Eff Bee 9-8, Sir Crusty 9-4, Mr Taylor 8-13.

BETTING: 7-2 So Proud, 6-1 Fast Thoughts, 7-1 Attadale, Victor Bravo, 8-1 Couture Stockings, 10-1 others.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

BEAUCHAMP GRACE 41¼l 3rd to Meditator in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good to soft) on penultimate start. ATTADALE head 2nd (awarded race) to Cariboo Gold in handicap hurdle at Doncaster (3m 110yd, good) with SPROWSTON BOY (9lb better off) 20l 8th. SO PROUD 1½l 2nd of 30 to Time For A Run in Coral Cup Handicap Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft). SMITH TOO beat Captain My Captain 3l in handicap hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good). FAST THOUGHTS beat Happy Horse 12l in handicap hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft). COUTURE STOCKINGS 4l 2nd to Curtain Factory in handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft) with MR TAYLOR (11lb worse off) 16l 4th.
Selection: SO PROUD

5.10 ELITE RACING CLUB NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,408: 2m 4f 110yd) (8 runners)

1 1214 CORNER BOY 15 (C,BF,F,S) (Mrs E Wilson) D Nicholson 7-11-9 A Maguire 99
2 2/1-251 MARSHALL SPARKS 16 (S) (D Berestord) M Pipe 7-11-9 M Foster 79
3 502231 THE FROG PRINCE 12 (D,F) (R Cooper) N Gaselee 6-11-9 C Llewellyn 81
4 4382 EVEN BLUE 10 (Mrs C Black) Mrs C Black 6-11-2 Mr D McCain (5) 76
5 PUS30P JIMMY O'DEA 81 (F) (J Harlow) T Bill 7-11-2 N Williamson —
6 JUNIOR ROGERS (J Rogers) P Dalton 6-11-2 R Marley —
7 40005P/ MAN OF THE GRANGE 666 (R Marshall) W Clay 8-11-2 Diane Clay —
8 00 YOUNG BALDRIC 15 (Jenny Pitman Racing Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-2 I Lawrence 72

BETTING: 7-4 Corner Boy, 3-1 Marshall Sparks, 7-2 The Frog Prince, 6-1 Even Blue, Young Baldric, 12-1 others.

1993: MR FLANAGAN 7-11-2 G Bradley (3-1) C Brooks 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

CORNER BOY 9¾l 4th of 8 to Brave Buccaneer in handicap hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, good). Previously beat Gray's Ellergy 4l in novice hurdle here (3m 110yd, soft). MARSHALL SPARKS beat Stormy Sunset 15l in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). THE FROG PRINCE beat Banchory ¾l in novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 4f, good to firm). EVEN BLUE 6l 2nd of 10 to Le Ginno in novice hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, soft).
Selection: CORNER BOY

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

UTTOXETER
C4

2.30: General Pershing has sound prospects of winning this race for the second year running. Gordon Richards's chaser is best when giving away weight in small fields and ran with promise behind Master Oats at Kempton last time. Romany King and Lumberjack have shown nothing for a year, which leaves Lake Teereen as the main threat.

3.00: Hill Trix returned to his best 1993 form at Newbury 14 days ago to win at 50-1. If he reproduces that run he must go close, but I prefer **Taramoss**, who was runner-up that day and is now 4lb better off. More importantly, he looks sure to appreciate today's extra distance. Comedy Spy had the beating of Hudson Bay Trader when falling at the final fence last week but rarely wins. A bigger danger could be Fardross, who ran well against experienced chasers at Doncaster two weeks ago.

3.35: Into The Red, second in this race behind Mister Ed last year, can bounce back to form. John White's stayer loathed the holding ground at Chepstow last time, but was previously a good third to Moorcroft Boy on his reappearance. Today's ground and trip should be ideal. Shraden Leader is sure to be thereabouts although he had quite a hard race at Doncaster last time. Superior Finish is best in the spring and can confirm Warwick placings with Glenbrook D'Or, while Merry Master is a lively outsider.

4.10: Celtic Song can go well at a decent price. She has run with credit behind Clyde Ranger and Native Mission since winning at Sedgefield. This represents a considerable drop in class and today's distance is arguably her best. River Pearl is on the upgrade and is not badly handicapped even with top weight. She is a danger, along with Nicklup, whose jumping has improved.

4.40: Fast Thoughts won a moderate race as he liked after a long lay-off but has gone up 10lb in the weights, while Smith Too returned his best performance when winning at Ludlow earlier this month. However, **So Proud** will take some beating after just failing to win the Coral Cup at Cheltenham on Wednesday. As long as he has recovered from his exertions he can gain quick compensation.

Richard Evans

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

2.20 Whitechapel. 2.50 Cyborgo. 3.20 Castle Diamond. 3.50 Jokers Patch. 4.20 Rafiki. 4.50 Air Shot. 5.20 Crown Prosecutor.

GOING: SOFT SIS

2.20 BEAGLES NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,136: 2m 110yd) (11 runners)

1 05-1 OVERLORD 22 (D,S) W Muir 5-11-8 NON-RUNNER
2 6300 BIDDLESTONE BOY 17 D Barons 7-11-2 R Davis (3)
3 5 BILLYGOAT GRUFF 51 D Nicholson 5-11-2 W Marston
4 P0- BOUGHT THE ACES 422 G Ham 6-11-2 S Mackey
5 0-50 ESSDOUBLEYOU 80 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-2 A Thornton (3)
6 2 WHITECHAPEL 19 (BF) N Henderson 6-11-2 M A Fitzgerald
7 0P00 MISS SOUTER 75 H Howe 5-10-11 R Darke (7)
8 P0 SAMJAMALIFRAN 18 M Pipe 5-10-11 J Lower
9 4 SAMS QUEEN 68 J Upson 5-10-11 R Supple
10 034 HONEY GUIDE 38 R Baker 4-10-9 Mr G Hogan (7)
11 POLY VISION 12F M Tate 4-10-9 P McLoughlin (7)

5-4 Whitechapel, 3-1 Honey Guide, 7-1 Billygoat Gruff, 8-1 Samjamalifran, 10-1 Sams Queen, 16-1 Biddlestone Boy, 25-1 others.

2.50 BRISTOL UNIVERSITY TURF CLUB NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,192: 3m) (11)

1 1511 SEE ENOUGH 17 (CD,S) R Buckler 6-12-0 Mr G Hogan (7)
2 212 CYBORGO 15 (BF,S) M Pipe 4-11-3 M Foster
3 1611 DERRYMOSS 18 (V,D,S) M Pipe 8-11-2 J Lower
4 322P CRANK SHAFT 42 (V) F Yardley 7-10-11 M Hourigan
5 3211 LANSDOWNE 30 (D,S) G Ham 6-10-8 M A Fitzgerald
6 1443 MOBILE MESSENGER 16 (D,S) D Barons 6-10-0 T Wall
7 0302 SOLO GENT 18 A Jones 5-10-0 S McNeill
8 3024 DEVIOSITY 16 N Ayliffe 7-10-0 I Shoemark
9 PP-0 SARAH'S WROATH 14 M Scudamore 9-10-0 D Meredith (3)
10 00FF PHYL'S LEGACY 9 Miss A Broyd 9-10-0 R Supple
11 00-P IDIOM 29 Mrs J Retter 7-10-0 R Davis (3)

5-2 See Enough, 3-1 Cyborgo, 7-2 Derrymoss, 4-1 Lansdowne, 12-1 Mobile Messenger, 16-1 Crank Shaft, 33-1 others.

3.20 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £2,608: 2m 3f 110yd) (6)

1 3311 CASTLE DIAMOND 14 (F,S) H Kavanagh 7-11-10 M Bosley
2 1232 NICKLE JOE 14 (CD,B,S) M Tate 8-11-6 W Marston
3 P306 FAR TOO LOUD 12 (F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 7-11-2 R Davis (3)
4 P/0P KETFORD BRIDGE 45 R Dickin 7-11-2 D Meredith (3)
5 U-23 SWITCH 15 (B,BF,G,S) C Brooks 8-11-2 S McNeill
6 64PP BRORA ROSE 9 (B,S) P Rodford 6-10-11 Miss S Cobden (7)

5-4 Castle Diamond, 9-4 Switch, 3-1 Nickle Joe, 8-1 Far Too Loud, 33-1 Brora Rose, 50-1 Ketford Bridge.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Nicholson, 14 winners from 37 runners, 37.8%; M Pipe, 65 from 230, 28.3%; Mrs J Retter, 5 from 22, 22.7%; C Brooks, 6 from 35, 17.1%; D Barons, 11 from 69, 15.9%; N Henderson, 6 from 39, 15.4%.

JOCKEYS: D J Burchell, 4 winners from 28 rides, 14.3%; T Grantham, 3 from 21, 14.3%; W Marston, 3 from 21, 14.3%; M A Fitzgerald, 3 from 24, 12.5%; M Hourigan, 3 from 25, 12.0%. (Only qualifiers)

3.50 FUTURE CHASERS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,940: 2m 4f 110yd) (11)

1 1135 ON THE SAUCE 5 (B,D,BF,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-12-7 L Reynolds (4)
2 ON THE LEDGE 40F H Manners 4-11-12 M Appleby (4)
3 3P3P NORTHERN OPTIMIST 22 (F) B Llewellyn 6-10-9 Guy Lewis
4 -002 MARINE SOCIETY 10 (B) R Lee 6-10-0 J Bond (8)
5 -234 JOKERS PATCH 22 (S) R Baker 7-10-0 A Thornton
6 6660 CRAZY HORSE DANCER 18F (D,G) F Jordan 6-10-0 R Farrant
7 6305 BOOGIE BOPPER 19 (V,S) M Pipe 5-10-0 D Burrows (8)
8 1PU5 DAMCADA 45 (S) D Wintle 6-10-0 R Davis
9 0064 THANKSFORTHEOFFER 10 (V) I Jones 6-10-0 Pat Thompson (4)
10 0PPP SHIKARI KID 22 (F,S) R Thompson 7-10-0 A Larnach
11 20P3 BLUE LYZANDER 10 R Brotherton 5-10-0 T Jenks

7-4 Marine Society, 7-2 On The Sauce, 5-1 Jokers Patch, 8-1 Boogie Bopper, Northern Optimist, 10-1 Crazy Horse Dancer, 16-1 Thanksfortheoffer, Blue Lyzander, 20-1 others.

4.20 OSTLER HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,738: 2m 3f 110yd) (2)

1 1321 RAFIKI 7 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 9-11-10 M A Fitzgerald
2 UP04 BALDA BOY 14 (B,D,G,S) T Forster 10-11-9 R Farrant (3)

1-4 Rafiki, 3-1 Balda Boy.

4.50 OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(Div I: £1,277: 2m 1f) (15)

1 BORIS BAGLEY D Chesney 5-11-3 N Wilmington (7)
2 0-5 DOVETTO 46 R Price 5-11-3 P McLoughlin (7)
3 LUV-U-FRANK M Pipe 5-11-3 J Lower
4 00- MAC'S BOY 331 B Palling 5-11-3 D Rees (7)
5 0 MY WARRIOR 10 J Edwards 5-11-3 M A Fitzgerald
6 5 PONGO WARING 59 Miss H Knight 5-11-3 J McCarthy (3)
7 036 BOURNEL 37 C Barwell 5-10-12 Mr Richard White (7)
8 00 BREAD OF HEAVEN 79 R Evans 5-10-12 D Meredith (3)
9 AIR SHOT D Nicholson 4-10-9 M Keighley (7)
10 DERRYS PREROGATIVE N Babbage 4-10-9 A Thornton (3)
11 05 DUNLIR 44 P Rodford 4-10-9 T Thompson (7)
12 0 HIGH MOOD 14 T George 4-10-9 T Jenks (3)
13 23 NORMAN'S CONVINCED 46 M Pipe 4-10-9 L Reynolds (7)
14 ORCADIAN ROSE Miss A Broyd 4-10-4 R Supple
15 0 SHAMELESS LADY 28 G Ham 4-10-4 S Mackey

7-2 Luv-U-Frank, 4-1 Air Shot, 5-1 Norman's Convinced, 8-1 Bournel, Pongo Waring, 12-1 Dovetto, My Warrior, 14-1 others.

5.20 OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(Div II: £1,277: 2m 1f) (15)

1 FAR EAST D Barons 5-11-3 R Davis (3)
2 JOBINGO G Price 5-11-3 Guy Lewis (5)
3 NATIVE ALLIANCE M Pipe 5-11-3 J Lower
4 05 RIVER LEVEN 10 D Gandolfo 5-11-3 W Marston
5 SCBOO R Peacock 5-11-3 V Slattery
6 WELSH'S GAMBLE J Old 5-11-3 NON-RUNNER
7 1 CROWN PROSECUTOR 10 (D,S) W Muir 4-11-2 S McNeill
8 0- KEYLU 403 G Giddings 5-10-12 M Hourigan
9 TYDFIL LASS D Burchell 5-10-12 D J Burchell
10 0 HAILE DERRING 39 M Scudamore 4-10-9 D Meredith (3)
11 KINGS GAMBLE M Barraclough 4-10-9 Ann Stokell
12 WOODYOU F Jordan 4-10-9 R Supple
13 2 NAHLA 29 Miss J Doyle 4-10-4 S Curran (5)
14 TRY AGAIN JANE D Eddy 4-10-4 M A Fitzgerald
15 WELSH ORCHID Graham Richards 4-10-4 N Juckes (7)

5-2 Crown Prosecutor, 11-4 Nahla, 5-1 Native Alliance, 6-1 Try Again Jane, 10-1 Far East, 14-1 River Leven, 16-1 others.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.55 Sesame Seed. 2.25 Dare Say. 2.55 Texan Tycoon. 3.25 Yellow Spring. 3.55 Gold Glen. 4.25 Emerald Storm.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

1.55 OVERTONS RESTAURANTS NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,061: 2m 3f 110yd) (16 runners)

1 2256 NATIVE CHIEFTAN 82 (F) S Dow 5-11-10 W McFarland 99
2 0 I'M IN CLOVER 58 T Thomson Jones 5-11-4 D Meade —
3 0P5- LE DENSTAN 390 P Hedger 7-11-4 M Richards —
4 0-05 MARROB 75 (BF) R Akehurst 7-11-4 G McCourt 75
5 MR ELECTRAMECH J O'Donoghue 7-11-4 S Earle —
6 200P MR GREY FELLOW 108 P Clarke 6-11-4 T Dascombe (7) —
7 P/2 RES IPSA LOQUITUR 10 J Long 7-11-4 D Gallagher 82
8 33 RIO TRUSKY 31 D Grissell 5-11-4 J Railton 70
9 5-00 SARAZAR 10 R Akehurst 5-11-4 S Ryan (7) —
10 3 SESAME SEED 79 N Henderson 6-11-4 J Kavanagh 87
11 3432 SPUFFINGTON 24 (BF) J Gifford 6-11-4 D Murphy 93
12 -P04 TAKE CHANCES 16 Mrs P Dutfield 6-11-4 N Dawe —
13 P050 THE FUN OF IT 245 J Arnold 9-11-4 G Upton 75
14 U640 DREAMLINE 39 M Muggeridge 5-10-13 M Ahern —
15 0 JOALTO 37 C Popham 4-10-9 S Smith Eccles —
16 6252 FOREVER SHINEING 14 S Mellor 4-10-4 M Perrett 93

3-1 Native Chieftan, 4-1 Sesame Seed, 5-1 Forever Shineing, 6-1 others.

2.25 CHARLIE CHESTER CLUB HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,807: 2m) (6)

1 P21U DARE SAY 10 (D,F,G,S) R Alner 11-12-0 S Earle 92
2 021P FIGHTING DAYS 40 (V,D,F,G) A Moore 8-11-3 D Gallagher 87
3 1144 COTAPAXI 28 (CD,F,G) R Hodges 9-11-1 G McCourt 87
4 FF6F LUCKY AGAIN 15 (D,G) C Popham 7-11-0 M Richards 93
5 4145 SPOONHILL WOOD 12 (B,D,S) J Wharton 8-10-7 B Dalton 93
6 2264 SQUEEZE PLAY 38 (B,F) D Grissell 9-10-3 J Railton 99

6-4 Dare Say, 5-2 Fighting Days, 5-1 Cotapaxi, 6-1 Lucky Again, 10-1 others.

2.55 MAXIMS LINGFIELD GOLD CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (£7,254: 2m 3f 110yd) (11)

1 0F44 COKENNY BOY 14 (F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-10 D Bohan (7) 87
2 2-10 TEXAN TYCOON 112 (B) R Akehurst 6-11-7 G McCourt 94
3 0-1F BELLEZZA 21F (CD,BF,G,S) A Moore 7-11-6 M Richards 93
4 0/40 VAGADOR 18 (G,S) G Harwood 11-11-2 M Perrett 94
5 331- SORBIERE 358 (D,F) N Henderson 7-10-13 J Kavanagh 89
6 4/11 RUN HIGH 31 (S) P Mitchell 11-10-8 Mr R Teal 99
7 32F0 BILLY BORU 82 (F,S) Mrs M Long 6-10-8 D Gallagher 99
8 3-04 MORE OF IT 12 (D,G,S) M Roberts 9-10-5 J Railton —
9 0035 SURE PRIDE 28 (D,F,G) A Moore 6-10-0 G Upton 90
10 6033 NOBLE INSIGHT 7 (F,G,S) C Brooks 7-10-0 D Murphy 80
11 2-65 RED BEAN 30 (C,G) J O'Donoghue 6-10-0 S Earle 86

3-1 Texan Tycoon, 7-2 Run High, 4-1 Bellezza, 6-1 Sorbiere, 10-1 Cokenny Boy, 12-1 Billy Boru, Noble Insight, Vagador, 14-1 others.

3.25 NORTHERN TRUST OPAL NOVICES CHASE
(Grade II: £9,880: 2m 4f 110yd) (8)

1 P5P2 BLACK CHURCH 38 R Rowe 8-11-3 G McCourt 90
2 P-F3 COULDNT BE BETTER 29 (C,S) C Brooks 7-11-3 M Perrett 70
3 1436 FESTIVAL DREAMS 93 (D,F,G,S) Mrs P Dutfield 9-11-3 N Dawe 68
4 613F GENERAL BRANDY 8 (C,S) J Gifford 8-11-3 D Murphy 76
5 UP24 UNEXIS 30 S Mellor 9-11-3 S Earle —
6 -212 UNHOLY ALLIANCE 106 (D,F,G,S) K Bailey 7-11-3 D Gallagher 85
7 111U YELLOW SPRING 3 (D,F,G,S) D Grissell 9-11-3 J Railton 99
8 5231 RUSSINSKY 21 (D,G) G Bravery 7-10-12 R Beggan 80

2-1 Unholy Alliance, Yellow Spring, 6-1 Russinsky, 10-1 Couldnt Be Better, Festival Dreams, 12-1 Black Church, 14-1 others.

3.55 VICTORIA TRADING NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,530: 2m 110yd) (15)

1 6143 MR PICKPOCKET 22 (D,BF,S) J Akehurst 6-11-10 S Ryan (7) 94
2 0141 FONTAMAYS 15 (CD,S) Mrs M McCourt 6-11-10 G McCourt 91
3 0320 JYMJAM JOHNNY 22 J Akehurst 5-11-5 D Gallagher 92
4 R12R MAMES BOY 15 (CD,S) J Gifford 7-11-4 D Murphy 96
5 2P6 SYLVAN SABRE 31 P Mitchell 5-11-1 G McCourt 89
6 4330 GAMEFULL GOLD 105 (B) S Dow 5-10-13 W McFarland 88
7 3-40 GOLD GLEN 19 (B) P Makin 6-10-10 S Earle 88
8 060P FERAL BAY 15 C Brooks 5-10-5 J Railton 92
9 5000 MONAZITE 2 (B) J McConnochie 4-10-5 E Tolhurst (7) 99
10 055U LE BARON PERCHE 10 C James 5-10-5 J Kavanagh 99
11 000 AMLACE 16 S Mellor 5-10-0 M Perrett 86
12 5544 KINGSFOLD PET 19 M Haynes 5-10-0 D Skyrme 75
13 6P-0 BRENDA HUNT 14 M Muggeridge 5-10-0 M Ahern 83
14 3RP6 LETTS GREEN 17 R Curtis 6-10-0 M Richards 88
15 0506 GRAND COLONIST 10 R Dean 7-10-0 T Kent 83

5-2 Mr Pickpocket, 3-1 Fontamays, 8-1 Jymjam Johnny, Mames Boy, 10-1 Amlace, 12-1 Gamefull Gold, Gold Glen, Sylvan Sabre, 16-1 others.

4.25 GOLDEN HORSESHOE HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,184: 3m) (5)

1 1PPU HOWARYADOON 11 (D,F,S) R Rowe 8-11-10 G McCourt 89
2 P212 SILVERINO 19 (B,CD,BF,G,S) G L Moore 8-11-8 M Richards 96
3 1164 THE TARTAN SPARTAN 36 (D,F,S) M Wilkinson 10-11-4 P Ward (7) 99
4 21P3 EMERALD STORM 30 (G,S) N Henderson 7-10-11 J Kavanagh 96
5 606P CAMDEN BELLE 19 (D,F,G) M Muggeridge 12-10-3 M Perrett 81

5-4 Silverino, 5-2 Howaryadoon, 3-1 Emerald Storm, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Akehurst, 12 winners from 43 runners, 27.9%; N Henderson, 5 from 19, 26.3%; S Mellor, 4 from 20, 20.0%; C Brooks, 4 from 21, 19.0%; K Bailey, 4 from 22, 18.2%; R Rowe, 3 from 17, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: J Kavanagh, 4 winners from 19 rides, 21.1%; D Murphy, 5 from 29, 17.2%; M Perrett, 6 from 40, 15.0%. (Only qualifiers)

□ David Nicholson saddled the 1,000th winner of his training career when Ramstar, ridden by Adrian Maguire, beat Centenary Star by half a length at Southwell yesterday.

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Saturday portrait: Rob Andrew by Simon Barnes

Master surveyor with plans for sustaining England's supremacy

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



Some people might think it a bit off. You play the game of your life, your team pulls off a dramatic win in one of the toughest arenas your sport can offer; and all you hear is how boring you are.

Boring! This is Rob Andrew, this is the England stand-off half, not some pin-striped commuter from Pinner. Though, as a matter of fact, Andrew is a pin-striped commuter as well as a rugby union international. He comes into town from Pinner.

But the man from Pinner scored all the points in England's win over France two weeks ago. His place-kicking and his tactical kicking were as close to perfection as you can get. And his defence — you would not think that someone who still looks so innocent, despite his 31 years, could tackle like a demented wolverine — was immense.

But on the following Monday, assuming he read all the papers on the tube as he made his way from the heart of Metroland into his job as a surveyor with DTZ Debenham Thorpe, of Oxford Circus — he learnt that the victory "drove a nail into the coffin of rugby". That he was "hero of the game and villain of the spectacle".

Andrew says mildly that it was "a little disappointing", and gets on with surveying things, and practising kicking footballs like a pianist practising arpeggios. His is not a volatile temperament. "My game is built on the rock-solid side of things," he said.

Andrew is not an exotic, not an exquisite. In the round-ball game, the season has been lit up by Manchester United's Frenchman, Eric Cantona: "Ooh-ah, Cantona!"

Ooh-ah, Rob Andrew? Doesn't work. You need a jingle like "Oh-yes-rather-jolly effective-bit-of-play, Rob Andrew!" No, best forget it. Just accept that Andrew has had an ooh-ah by-pass. Sergei Diaghilev's pre-match instructions to Jean Cocteau, for the Russian ballet in 1912, were *étonne-moi*: astonish me.

I suspect that it is fair to say that Geoff Cooke, the England rugby manager, has never given Andrew such an instruction. Andrew's game, and Cooke's game-plan, rests on the total lack of astonishment. Andrew takes few risks. The only surprise he is capable of pulling off is a mistake, something so rare as to be, well, astonishing.

But there are astonishing things about Andrew. It is astonishing that he is so consistent, so accurate, so calm and still, so capable of making snap decisions under physical threat. It is astonishing but it is no longer surprising. Andrew has elevated steadiness to English rugby's most potent weapon for victory.

He is a roundhead of sport. His virtues are obvious, but never strident. Graham Gooch would have appreciated him. Arsenal would love him. A debate about style versus content would leave him baffled. What's style got to do with it? What indeed? But it has always been Andrew's fate to be the subject of obvious, or odious, comparisons. It is the fate of some athletes to be twinned with others throughout their careers, waxing and waning at each other's expense: Gooch and Gower, Hoddle and Robson, Martina and Chrissie. The strengths of the one are always a handy stick with which to beat the other.

> **'Beyond doubt the team has got what it takes. Bottle. The willingness to take each other through.'**

Andrew's life has been, since 1982 and the University match, mysteriously intertwined with that of Stuart Barnes. Barnes: stand-off half and cavalier. Andrew: conservative and Conservative, establishment man. Barnes: always a trifle disreputable looking, adventurous in rugby as in politics. Andrew still looks like the kid on the Fruit Gums box; Barnes looks as if he earns his living from a *louche* Soho jazz club. (Actually, he works for a building society: a plain-clothes cavalier.)

But then Barnes is all about deceptiveness. Deceptive in his running, in his unpredictable flights of on-field adventure, in his reaction to people and circumstances. Andrew is not in the slightest degreee deceptive. He is a *wysiwyg* man; outdated computer-speak for What You See Is What You Get.

But in the private match that has been played between the two of them for the past 12 years, Andrew has won set after set. Barnes, despite picking up the odd game here and there (often, Leconte-like, getting the crowd on his side), has seldom caused Andrew much worry.

Barnes has displaced Andrew for a match here, a match there. But every time, management has come back to the knowable, the trustable, the predictable, the non-astonishing, the consummately effective. Andrew to a tee.

Barnes's main role has been the stick for the berating of the England rugby team, Cooke, and Andrew. He is a permanent reminder of what might have been: style and glory. Instead, England have opted for success and never mind the marks for artistic impression.

Barnes's secondary role has been the pressurising of Andrew, a looming threat that has coaxed ever more solid performances from Andrew. "A lot of people live with an almost mythical view of what rugby is like," Andrew said.

"And there are a lot of people trying to disrupt the show. The past five years have been the most successful an England rugby team has ever had. This has created an awful lot of jealousy in an awful lot of places.

"We have created high expectations. That is why people were so ready to get their knives into the team after the defeat by Ireland a few weeks ago. In other rugby countries, and in England itself, there are a lot of people trying to destabilise what is going on and the transitional period of the past 12 months has given them the best opportunity to do that."

It is Andrew's belief that England's boat-steadying victory over France was the most gigantic breakthrough. We will learn more about the substance behind that belief in the match against Wales at Twickenham this afternoon.

"It is something more than team spirit. It is something that goes deeper than that. Trust. Willingness to put your body on the line, because you know that everyone else in the side will do the same. The old team had it a couple of years ago. The current team discovered it for the first time in Paris. We dug very deep — and we found it. Beyond doubt, the team has got what it takes. Bottle. Willingness to take each other through.

"That will stand the side in a far greater position of strength than anything technical. Technical things can be bolted on. But if you haven't got that team bottle, it doesn't matter how technically gifted you are, you will never withstand the onslaught of international rugby at the highest level."

Andrew, *wysiwyg* man, is not a person of hidden depths. You know what he will give: courage, steadiness, cool, accuracy. If there is a way in which Andrew can astonish, it is because he has these known and predictable qualities in superplus. It is not his qualities that make the mystery; it is their quantity.

Consistency is a drab thing but there is a point at which consistency becomes courage and strength. Andrew is a master of the humdrum. He has given humdrum the quality of epic. Thus a surveyor from Pinner has, for a succession of long moments on rugby grounds throughout the world, been the manager of all he surveys.



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Hastings seeks happy ending to season of disappointment

By John Hopkins

THERE is more to the last game of the season at Murrayfield than meets the eye and much thanks for this, because Scotland against France is the wooden-spoon match in what has been a lacklustre five nations' championship.

Edinburgh was buried beneath a cloud as grey and forbidding as its castle yesterday, which reduces the likelihood of the French playing their ebullient brand of rugby that is so attractive to watch and so difficult to counter. It was cold, too. Perhaps the French were wise not to arrive until tea-time.

Fortunately, however, the game today is wreathed in extra issues that, when added together, invest it with unusual significance.

The Hastings brothers, Gavin and Scott, jokers and gentlemen, are winning their fiftieth Scottish caps. Gavin will need no reminding that when the pair of them made their debuts in 1986 it was against the French. He kicked all of Scotland's points — six penalty goals, which was then a world record — and Scotland squeaked home 18-17.

"Victory tomorrow would go some way towards alleviating the disappointments of the year, which have been extreme at times," the Scotland captain said. "And as far as tomorrow being a cause for personal celebration — well, it will only be memorable in my mind if we win."

SCOTLAND		FRANCE
A G Hastings (Watsonians, capt)	15	J-L Sadoumy (Colomiers)
A G Stanger (Hawick)	14	W Téchoueyres (SBUC)
S Hastings (Watsonians)	13	P Sella (Agen)
D S Wyllie (Stewart's Melville FP)	12	Y Delaigue (Toulon)
K M Logan (Stirling County)	11	P Saint-André (Montferrand, capt)
G P J Townsend (Gala)	10	T Lacroix (Dax)
B W Redpath (Melrose)	9	A Macabiau (Perpignan)
A V Sharp (Bristol)	1	L Bénézech (Racing)
K S Milne (Heriot's FP)	2	J-M Gonzales (Bayonne)
A P Burnell (London Scottish)	3	L Seigne (Mérignac)
P Walton (Northampton)	6	P Benetton (Agen)
D S Munro (Glasgow H/Kelvinside)	4	O Brouzet (Grenoble)
A I Reed (Bath)	5	O Merle (Grenoble)
I R Smith (Gloucester)	7	L Cabannes (Grenoble)
G W Weir (Melrose)	8	A Benazzi (Agen)

Referee: W D Bevan (Wales)

Replacements: 16 M Dods (Gala), 17 C M Chalmers (Melrose), 18 A D Nicol (Dundee HSFP), 19 C D Hogg (Melrose), 20 P H Wright (Boroughmuir), 21 K D McKenzie (Stirling County).

Replacements: 16 E N'Tamack (Toulouse), 17 P Montlaur (Agen), 18 F Gaillhiá (Colomiers), 19 X Blond (Racing), 20 P Gallart (Béziers), 21 F Landreau (Grenoble).

It is also the occasion that will decide whether or not Pierre Berbizier, the France coach, is dismissed. Victory should save him; defeat almost certainly will not. The French have dropped Olivier Roumat, their captain, of whom they spoke so highly at the start of the season, and now Philippe Saint-André leads them. They have also introduced three new caps.

Olivier Brouzet, the son of a former Olympic shot-putter, has replaced Roumat in the second row. Weighing more than 18 stone, he will form one of the heaviest second rows in world rugby with Olivier Merle, his 19-stone Grenoble partner.

Yann Delaigue comes in at centre, with Thierry Lacroix moving to stand-off half in place of Alain Penaud, who has been dropped. Delaigue is said to be a fluent runner with a classic pass who can, as a bonus, drop goals. The third new cap is Alain Macabiau, the scrum half.

"We have already lost the championship," Berbizier said before leaving Paris. "What interests me now is to see the way this team reacts to the adverse conditions and changes in the line-up." The subtext of this is: will the revised team and its new captain play well enough to save my neck?

Scotland had a desultory run out in the rain at Murrayfield yesterday, sufficient to confirm the fitness of Andy Reed, the Bath lock and pack leader, after a bout of gastro-enteritis. They indulged in touch rugby and so much running and passing that one observer remarked sarcastically: "For God's sake, stop all that handling. They might forget themselves and do it tomorrow."

A championship in which there have been only 15 tries so far, compared with 36 by the end two seasons ago, is not one in which rugby has been much evident. The appearance of Bryan Redpath, the new Scotland scrum half, may help because he is said to have the quickest hands in Scotland.

At 5ft 7in, he is smaller and not as strong as Gary Armstrong, the legendary figure he replaces, who played such a remarkable first half against Ireland in Dublin two weeks ago. Do not think of that as a handicap, though. A club colleague at Melrose said of Redpath: "He will do the little people proud."

Basil, as he is known because he liked watching Basil Brush as a child, would be doing more than the little people a favour if, somehow, his sleight of hand was to inspire Scotland to move the ball purposefully or, in turn, to spur the French into a Gallic frenzy of rugby of the sort they can often produce when the sun is on their backs. The game needs it. It is in danger of becoming boring.

FACTS & FIGURES

☐ France have not beaten Scotland at Murrayfield since 1978, though they lead in the series by 31-30 with three draws. Scotland's biggest win at Murrayfield was by 21-0 in 1990, their grand slam year, while France have to look back to 1962 for their most substantial success, by 11-3.

☐ Gavin Hastings has scored more points (72) against France than any other Scot, ahead of Andy Irvine (52). His aggregate for Scotland now stands at 454, ironically in a season when goalkicking failures have proved so costly.

☐ The game at Twickenham will be the hundredth meeting between England and Wales, of which England have won 39 and Wales 48 — the only country in the five nations who hold the whip hand over England. England won the first meeting at Blackheath by seven goals, six tries and a dropped goal to nil and Wales had to wait until 1890 for their first win, by a try to nil at Dewsbury.

☐ England discovered what was to come when they found it impossible to beat Wales between 1899 and 1909. Only when Twickenham was opened, in 1910, was the jinx broken and then Wales could not win at "headquarters" until 1933.

☐ Of the 36 games played at Twickenham, England have won 18, Wales 11 and seven have been drawn, the last in 1988. In 1986, England won 21-18 without scoring a try, but the last tryless game was in 1978, when Wales won 9-6 on the way to their most recent grand slam.

GRAND SLAM WINNERS: England 10 (1913, 1914, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1928, 1957, 1980, 1991, 1992); Wales 8 (1908, 1909, 1911, 1950, 1952, 1971, 1976, 1978); France 4 (1968, 1977, 1981, 1987); Scotland 3 (1925, 1984, 1990); Ireland 1 (1948).

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Graf overwhelming favourite for Lipton tournament title

Zvereva holds out little hope



Agassi plays a forehand on his way to beating Stefan Edberg 7-6, 6-2 in the men's quarter-finals of the Lipton tournament yesterday

FROM STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA

NATALIA Zvereva is under no illusions. When asked whether she could beat Steffi Graf in the final of the Lipton tournament here today, the 22-year-old, from Belorussia, replied: "I doubt it." Few observers would be even that optimistic.

Graf has won all her 27 matches this year, the best sequence for a woman in the last decade. In eliminating Lindsay Davenport in the semi-finals, she surpassed the run of Monica Seles, who won 26 matches in a row three years ago. Graf has not dropped a set here and, until Thursday, had not been taken to a tie-break since last October. Her crushing superiority extends not only to her rivals but also to her next opponent. In 13 attempts, Zvereva has yet to record a victory and one of her defeats was the most humiliating in the modern era.

She reached the final of the French Open in 1988 but became only the second woman in grand slam history to fail to win a single game. The other victim was Dora Boothy, who was overwhelmed by Dorothea Lambert Chambers at Wimbledon in 1911.

Zvereva, already established as a doubles expert, is re-emerging in the singles as well. Once ranked fifth in the world, she is sure to move up from her present position of fourteenth, but she candidly recognises little hope of claiming only her second title in four years.

"Steffi has been playing so good for a long period of time," she said. "She hasn't been playing just decent. She's been playing very well in all of her matches and I guess that is why she is on her winning streak." Zvereva knocked out Brenda Schultz surprisingly easily in the semi-finals. The 6ft 2in Dutchwoman was plainly inhibited by nerves during the most significant match of her career. She went down 6-0, 6-4.

The outstanding men's quarter-final was also spoiled. Jim Grabb, absent for eight months last year with a damaged shoulder, was heading for a place in the last four until he sprained an ankle early in the second set. His mobility was affected and he lost 1-6, 6-4, 6-1 to Patrick Rafter.

Rafter, a 21-year-old from Queensland, is swiftly fulfilling his potential. Already in the top 50 in the world, he has recorded victories within the last year over Pete Sampras and Jim Courier and, earlier this week, Michael Chang.

He regarded his win over Grabb, an unseeded American, as empty. "I may have got back into it on my own but to win was more of a relief than anything," he said. "It gave me no satisfaction at all." For all that, he relishes the prospect of his semi-final. He will play Andre Agassi, who knocked him out of the third round at Wimbledon last year, the only time they have played each other. The winner will be matched against either Sampras or Courier.

On a domestic note, the Lawn Tennis Association confirmed yesterday that Volkswagen is to end its sponsorship of the Eastbourne tournament. The event this year, at Devonshire Park in June, will be the second the company has backed, but it has decided not to pursue its option for a third year.

RESULTS: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: P Rafter (Aus) bt J Grabb (US) 1-6, 6-4, 6-1; A Agassi (US) bt S Edberg (Swe) 7-6, 6-2. Women's singles: Semi-finals: S Graf (Ger) bt L Davenport (US) 6-0, 7-6; N Zvereva (Belo) bt B Schultz (Holl) 6-0, 6-4.

Clubs-first priority election promise by Shirley

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

AS YOU might expect of a man born in a workhouse and brought up in "Third World poverty and filth" — his words — Eric Shirley has kept in touch with the basics of athletics. If Shirley was in charge, he would spend less on salaries and more on helping the 1,800 clubs.

The clubs weary of unfulfilled promises and perceived weak leadership over the Andy Norman controversy might be tempted to vote for Shirley as the new chairman of the British Athletic Federation (BAF). He is one of three candidates for the position to be determined today at the annual meeting in Birmingham.

The Norman issue is not on the agenda, although attempts to air the subject are expected. The BAF's solicitors will be on hand to ensure no overstepping the mark in what the governing body regards as a delicate legal matter. The BAF is investigating Norman's conduct as its promotions director, not only in relation to his phone call to Cliff Temple, the coach and journalist who committed suicide, but other aspects of his behaviour.

Peter Radford's appointment as paid executive chairman in November left a vacancy for an honorary chairman of the policy-forming council. Shirley, a steeplechaser team-mate of Radford's at the 1960 Olympic Games, is up against Bob Greenoak, the vice-chairman and candidate from the Radford group that won the elections last year, and Ken Rickhuss, the chairman of cross country.

Shirley was taken from the workhouse in Epsom "like you would pick up a puppy dog from a pet store". He had several homes before being sent to Ireland to live in 1939, where the "Third World poverty and filth" was his life until he returned to England in 1945.

At 15 he lacked an education but attended night school and did sufficiently well to spend 30 years working in sales and marketing. But athletics was his salvation. "It lifted me from the gutter and made me someone," he said.

He puts club investment first because "that is where it all starts." He added: "They could get more assistance than they are. If I get elected some sparks have got to fly and some egos will be bruised in getting the gap closed between the top and the clubs."

Mansell beats lap record by three seconds

BY OLIVER HOLT

COMFORT zones and learning curves dominate Nigel Mansell's IndyCar lexicon. He lamented the absence of one and the steepness of the other throughout last season, as he drove a new car on strange tracks and facing new opponents to the championship at his first attempt. Yesterday, he began the defence of his title in Surfers Paradise, Australia, in a time zone all of his own.

On the Gold Coast street circuit where he launched his new career last year with pole position and a debut win, Mansell beat his own lap record by nearly three seconds in the first qualifying session for the opening race of the series tomorrow. Only Michael Andretti, who also spent last season searching for familiarity in a new formula, but with none of Mansell's success, came close to matching his time. Paul Tracy, in a Penske, was third.

"The only problem is I still feel as if I'm on holiday," Mansell, the former world Formula One champion, said. "Maybe I'll wake up and go a little bit better tomorrow. My target time was just to be quickest. When I came here last year I had never raced here. I did not have any comfort zones.

"But now I have got one year of learning behind me and hopefully we can improve on what we did last year."

Andretti, who made Mansell's IndyCar adventure possible by vacating his own place in the Newman-Haas team alongside his father, Mario, for an ill-fated and abridged season in Formula One with McLaren, has been impressive in winter testing for the Chip Ganassi team which is racing with a British Reynard chassis.

But the main threat to Mansell, 40, will come from the Penske "dream team" of Emerson Fittipaldi, Paul Tracy and Al Unser Jr.

Tracy, a 24-year-old Canadian who equalled Mansell's record of five race wins last season and would have finished higher than third had he curbed the reckless side of his driving which caused him to fail to finish seven of the 16 races, should have learnt the error of his ways and continued to mature.

"Little Al", who won the title in 1990, is expected to push Mansell close now he has stronger backing behind him. Fittipaldi, who was the championship runner-up last year, may be forced into a supporting position.

Bobby Rahal, the three-time champion, will profit from Honda's decision to enter the series as engine supplier for his team and the arrival of the Reynard chassis makes Michael Andretti something of an unknown quantity. Everyone is united, though, in the opinion that Mansell, who has won the Formula One and IndyCar championships in successive seasons is the man to beat.

"Had I stayed put at Newman-Haas, I have no doubt I would have been the champion last year," Andretti said. "And I would have gone one better by winning the Indianapolis 500 because I would not have got caught on the restart like Mansell did. But Nigel still did a great job for the team and he will be the man to catch.

"My experience in Formula One has made me tougher and even more determined to do well now I am back in IndyCar racing. It is more important than ever for me because I want to show everybody I have not lost it. I have already clocked more testing miles this season than I did the whole of last season and I am right up there with Nigel and the three Penske drivers."

Mansell's eyes are set firmly on the Indianapolis 500, the season's showpiece, which takes place at the end of May. He finished third last year. "It is an incredible race and an incredible occasion," he said.

"I would want to come back to compete in it even if I was not in IndyCars. To win it would be a dream but I have never defended a title before and I am keen to keep hold of this one." He appears to have found his comfort zone at last.

DETAILS

1994 DATES (US unless stated): Mar 20: Surfers Paradise (Aus). Apr 10: Phoenix. Apr 17: Long Beach. May 29: Indianapolis 500. June 5: Milwaukee. June 12: Detroit. June 26: Portland. July 10: Cleveland. July 17: Toronto (Can). July 31: Michigan. Aug 14: Leongton. Aug 21: New Hampshire. Sept 4: Vancouver (Can). Sept 11: Elkhart Lake. Sept 18: Nazareth. Oct 9: Laguna Seca.

LEADING 1993 POSITIONS: 1, N Mansell (GB) 191pts; 2, E Fittipaldi (Br) 183; 3, P Tracy (Can) 157, 4, B Rahal (US) 133; 5, R Boosel (Br) 132, 6, M Andretti (US) 117, 7, Al Unser Jr (US) 100, 8, A Luyendyk (Holl) 90, 9, S Goodyear (Can) 86, 10, R Gordon (US) 84



Mansell: perfect start

English connection aids French revival

FROM CHRISTOPHER IRVINE
IN CARCASSONNE

BY THE time David Fraisse got on the pitch at Headingley 12 months ago, the most one-sided international in rugby league history was way beyond even the Frenchman's gifted scoring talents. A world record 72-6 win by Great Britain underlined the depths to which the game in France had sunk.

A year on from that horror show, it is significant that the green shoots of France's recovery are firmly rooted in England. Both Fraisse, now at Sheffield Eagles, and Daniel Divet, the French Australian who plies his trade in the second row with Hull, feature in *Open Rugby League* magazine's form team for March.

Patrick Entat, the scrum half, enjoyed a productive spell at Hull and, having patched up his differences, is once more leading France by example.

Their influence will guide France in the John Smith's international against Britain in the medieval walled city of Carcassonne tomorrow. "Mentally and physically, the game in England is far ahead, but we're trying to instil those things with a new breed of very promising young players," Fraisse said.

Unlike many good league exponents, he rejected rugby union's money on offer at Toulon and Béziers. Three years ago, a motorcycle accident left him paralysed and in a coma, an episode he dismisses as easily as he has done defenders all season in spearheading Sheffield's attack with 15 tries.

Without tempting fate, Malcolm Reilly, the Britain coach, is looking for a solid winning performance as opposed to more records. He appreciates that a more competitive France is vital for the good health of the international game and this is the last chance to draw breath before the home series against Australia in the autumn.

FRANCE: J Frison (Villefranche); J-M Garcia (St Estève), F Mantal (St Estève), D Fraisse (Sheffield Eagles), C Sirvent (St Gaudens); P Fages (Pia), P Entat (Avignon, captain); F Tebbido (Limoux), P Torrelles (Pia), B Liong (XIII Catalan), D Divet (Hull), D Cabestany (XIII Catalan), B Grandjean (Lézignan). Substitutes: E Attia (Carpentras), T Anset (St Gaudens), P Bomati (XIII Catalan), A Coutiet (Carcassonne).

GREAT BRITAIN: G Steadman (Castleford); J Bentley (Halifax), G Connolly (Wigan), P Newlove (Bradford Northern), M Offiah (Wigan); G Schofield (Leeds, captain), S Edwards (Wigan); L Crooks (Castleford), L Jackson (Sheffield Eagles), S Molloy (Featherstone Rovers), A Farrell (Wigan), K Fairbank (Bradford Northern), C Joynt (St Helens). Substitutes: S Ellis (Castleford), P Moriarty (Widnes), D Powell (Sheffield Eagles), B-J Mather (Wigan).

Referee: J Connolly (England).

☐ Bradford Northern, the league leaders, are considering an appeal against the five-match ban imposed on their New Zealand full back, David Watson, who was punished following his sending-off for a "deliberate late and high tackle" in the club's home defeat by Leigh on Sunday.

RESULTS SERVICE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
* all-ticket match

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Aston Villa v Oldham
Leeds v Coventry
Liverpool v Chelsea
Manchester City v Sheffield United
QPR v Wimbledon
* Southampton v Arsenal
* Swindon v Manchester United
Tottenham v Ipswich
* West Ham v Newcastle

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	31	21	8	2	64	26	71
Blackburn	31	19	7	5	65	29	64
Newcastle	31	16	6	9	59	31	54
Arsenal	31	14	12	5	39	17	54
Leeds	32	13	13	6	46	32	52
Liverpool	32	14	8	10	51	43	50
Aston Villa	32	13	10	9	36	31	49
Sheff Wed	32	11	12	9	54	45	45
Norwich	32	10	14	8	53	46	44
QPR	30	12	8	10	48	41	44
Wimbledon	31	11	9	11	35	42	42
Ipswich	31	9	12	10	28	37	39
Coventry	32	9	11	12	33	38	38
West Ham	30	9	11	10	28	38	38
Everton	32	10	8	16	36	44	38
Chelsea	30	9	8	13	33	39	35
Tottenham	32	7	11	14	42	46	32
Southampton	31	9	5	17	33	42	32
Man City	32	6	12	14	28	40	30
Oldham	30	6	9	15	28	50	27
Sheff Utd	32	4	14	14	29	50	26
Swindon	33	4	12	17	37	60	24

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Bristol City v Portsmouth
Leicester v Barnsley
Luton v Birmingham
Middlesbrough v West Bromwich Albion
Nottingham Forest v Bolton
Oxford Utd v Tranmere
Southend v Stoke
Sunderland v Watford
Wolverhampton v Grimsby

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crystal Palace	35	19	8	8	58	38	65
Leicester	34	17	9	8	57	36	60
Notts Forest	34	17	9	8	54	35	60
Millwall	33	15	11	7	44	35	56
Charlton	33	16	7	10	44	32	55
Derby	35	15	8	12	53	49	53
Notts County	35	13	4	15	49	57	53
Tranmere	34	15	7	12	46	40	52
Stoke	35	14	9	12	43	47	51
Southend	35	14	5	16	49	49	47
Grimsby	34	11	14	9	45	39	47
Middlesbrough	33	12	11	10	42	34	47
Wolves	33	11	13	9	46	35	46
Bolton	33	12	10	11	43	40	46
Bristol City	34	12	10	12	34	38	46
Sunderland	33	13	6	14	34	38	45
Portsmouth	35	11	11	13	40	47	44
Luton	32	12	8	14	43	41	42
West Brom	35	10	10	15	48	51	40
Barnsley	33	10	7	16	42	50	37
Peterborough	35	8	11	16	36	46	35
Watford	35	9	7	19	49	69	34
Oxford Utd	34	8	8	18	36	61	32
Birmingham	36	7	9	20	33	58	30

Second division

Barnet v Wrexham
Bournemouth v Blackpool
Brighton v Leyton Orient
Burnley v Bristol Rovers
Cambridge Utd v Bradford
Fulham v Huddersfield
Hull v Reading
Plymouth v Cardiff
Port Vale v Brentford
Rotherham v Stockport
Swansea v Exeter (12.30)
York v Hartlepool

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Plymouth	35	20	8	7	67	44	68
Reading	35	20	8	7	65	37	68
Stockport	32	18	7	7	57	30	61
Port Vale	33	17	9	7	54	31	60
Hull	36	16	9	11	51	44	57
Bristol Rovers	35	16	9	10	43	41	57
Burnley	35	16	7	12	59	44	55
Brentford	36	13	15	8	47	36	54
York	35	15	8	12	49	34	53
Bradford	34	14	10	10	45	40	52
Leyton Orient	36	13	11	12	47	52	50
Blackpool	36	14	4	18	53	60	46
Bournemouth	33	11	12	10	40	43	45
Cambridge Utd	36	12	8	16	47	57	44
Swansea	34	11	11	12	43	44	44
Wrexham	33	11	9	13	49	54	42
Brighton	35	10	12	13	40	50	42
Fulham	35	12	5	18	40	48	41
Rotherham	33	10	9	14	45	51	39
Huddersfield	34	9	10	15	35	49	37
Cardiff	30	8	10	12	45	50	34
Exeter	32	8	10	14	41	56	34
Hartlepool	35	5	8	22	27	60	23
Barnet	34	3	9	22	29	63	18

Third division

Bury v Colchester
Carlisle v Chester
Chesterfield v Rochdale
Crewe v Torquay
Doncaster v Wycombe
Northampton v Lincoln
Preston v Mansfield
Scunthorpe v Gillingham
Shrewsbury v Scarborough
Walsall v Darlington
Wigan v Hereford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chester	33	17	9	7	55	34	60
Crewe	32	17	7	8	65	47	58
Shrewsbury	31	16	9	6	49	34	57
Wycombe	31	16	8	7	50	40	56
Preston	32	15	9	8	64	45	54
Torquay	32	13	11	8	50	46	50
Chesterfield	32	14	7	11	46	43	49
Bury	32	14	5	13	46	46	47
Walsall	33	13	8	12	38	41	47
Rochdale	31	12	9	10	49	37	45
Mansfield	33	12	8	13	42	48	44
Carlisle	33	11	9	12	40	35	42
Scunthorpe	33	10	11	11	47	41	41
Lincoln	33	11	7	14	44	50	40
Scarborough	33	11	6	16	41	50	39
Colchester	32	10	7	15	45	59	37
Doncaster	32	10	7	15	35	45	37
Gillingham	32	9	10	13	33	40	37
Hereford	32	9	5	18	48	61	32
Wigan	30	6	8	14	35	53	32
Darlington	32	7	11	14	35	48	32
Northampton	33	7	9	17	38	54	30

GM Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham v Yeovil
Bath v Southport
Bromsgrove v Kettering
Dag and Red v Witton
Dover v Stalybridge
Gateshead v Merthyr
Kidderminster v Woking
Macclesfield v Halifax
Northwich v Stafford
Slough v Telford
Welling v Runcorn

Scottish League

Premier division

Dundee Utd v Partick
Hibernian v Celtic
Kilmarnock v Aberdeen
Motherwell v Dundee
Raith v Hearts
Rangers v St Johnstone

FA VASE: Semi-final, first leg: Diss v Atherton LR; Taunton v Boston.
FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-final: Sligo Rovers v Cobh Ramblers (7.30).

First division

Brechin v Dumbarton
Clyde v Airdrie
Clydebank v Hamilton
Falkirk v Ayr
St Mirren v Dunfermline
Stirling v Morton

Second division

Albion v Queen's Park
Berwick v Alloa
East Stirling v Arbroath
Forfar v Queen of the South
Meadowbank v Stenhousemuir
Montrose v Cowdenbeath
Stranraer v East Fife

Northern Premier League

Premier division

Horwich v Buxton
Knowsley Utd v Matlock
Leek v Gainsborough
Marine v Hyde

OTHER MATCHES: Accrington Stanley v Winsford; Barrow v Fleetwood; Bishop Auckland v Colwyn Bay; Boston Utd v Whitley Bay; Droylsden v Frickley; Emley v Chorley; Morecambe v Bridlington. First division: Ashton v Guiseley; Bamber Bridge v Eastwood; Curzon Ashton v Caernarfon; Gretna v Alfreton; Goole v Radcliffe; Harrogate v Great Harwood; Lancaster City v Warrington Town; Mossley v Congleton; Netherfield v Farsley Celtic; Workington v Worksop.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bashley v Solihull; Cambridge City v Atherstone; Chelmsford v Burton; Corby v Halesowen; Dorchester v Hednesford; Moor Green v Gresley Rovers; Trowbridge v Nuneaton; Waterlooville v Crawley ; Worcester v Cheltenham. Midland division: Armitage v King's Lynn; Bedworth v Newport AFC; Clevedon v RC Warwick; Dudley v Bilston; Evesham v Grantham; Forest Green v Leicester Utd; Hinckley v Bridgnorth; Rushden and Diamonds v Weston-super-Mare; Stourbridge v Sutton Coldfield; Yate v Tamworth. Southern division: Ashford v Tonbridge; Bury Town v Newport IoW; Dunstable v Fisher 93; Gravesend and Northfleet v Braintree; Havant v Buckingham; Poole v Canterbury; Salisbury v Erith and Belvedere; Sudbury v Fareham; Weymouth v Margate.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Hitchin; Bromley v Hayes; Chesham v Molesey; Dorking v Merlow; Grays v Dulwich; Harrow v Carshalton; Kingstonian v Enfield; St Albans v Basingstoke; Stevenage Borough v Hendon; Wokingham v Wivenhoe; Yeading v Sutton Utd. First division: Barking v Worthing; Billericay v Abingdon; Bognor Regis v Boreham Wood; Croydon v Staines; Heybridge Swifts v Walton and Hersham; Leyton v Whyteleafe; Purfleet v Chalfont St Peter; Ruislip Manor v Bishop's Stortford; Tooting and Mitcham v Berkhamsted; Uxbridge v Maidenhead Utd; Windsor and Eton v Wembley. Second division: Aveley v Tilbury; Collier Row v Banstead; Egham v Barton; Hemel Hempstead v Aldershot Town; Leatherhead v Hungerford; Lewes v Saffron Walden; Malden Vale v Hampton; Metropolitan Police v Rainham; Newbury v Ware; Witham v Chertsey. Third division: Bracknell v Harefield; Cove v Flackwell Heath; East Thurrock v Camberley; Harlow v Kingsbury; Hertford v Tring; Hornchurch v Clapton; Northwood v Cheshunt; Royston v Feltham and Hounslow; Southall v Leighton.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Millwall; Chelsea v West Ham; Fulham v Cambridge Utd; Gillingham v Portsmouth; Leyton Orient v Southend; QPR v Norwich; Tottenham v Charlton. Second division: Brighton v Tottenham; Bristol City v C Palace; Bristol R v Brentford; Colchester v Bournemouth; Oxford Utd v Reading; Southampton v Swindon.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Bradford PA v Newcastle Town; Bursough v Kidsgrove; Chedderton v Eastwood Hanley; Clitheroe v Nantwich; Darwen v Penrith; Fleetwood v Prescot; Glossop North End v Bacup Borough; Salford City v Bootle. Second division: Ashton v Westhoughton; Atherton Collieries v Hastingden; Cheadle v Ellesmere Port; Formby v Blackpool Mecs; Holker Old Boys v K Chell; Maghull v Irlam; Nelson v Oldham Town; North Trafford v Squires Gate. Challenge Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Stamondale v Rossendale; Blackpool Rovers v St Helens.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Ebbw Vale v Cwmbran (12.30); Holywell v Caersws (12.0); Inter Cardiff v Llanelli; Newtown v Flint Town Utd (12.0). Postponed: Porthmadog v Llansantffraid.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street v Northallerton; Dunston FB v Gulsborough; Eppleton CW v Newcastle Blue Star; Ferryhill Athletic v Durham City; Hebburn v Consett; Seaham Red Star v West Auckland; Tow Law v Murton; Whitby v Blyth Spartans. Second division: Bedlington Terriers v Whickham; Crook v Easington; Evenwood v Darlington CS; Horden CW v Shotton Comrades; Langley Park v Billingham Town; Peterlee v Prudhoe East End; Rynope CA v Norton; Washington v Alnwick; Willington v Ashington. League Cup: Billingham Synthonia v Brandon Utd.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Bishop Sutton v Tiverton. Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm v Torrington; Chippenham v Bideford; Crediton v Paulton; Exmouth v Calne; Odd Down v Minehead.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Glentoran; Clitonville v Ballymena; Coleraine v Ballyclare; Distillery v Larne; Linfield v Glenavon; Newry v Bangor; Omagh Town v Crusaders; Portadown v Carrick.

RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE (2.30): Premier division: Dudley Hill v Leigh MW; Saddleworth v Hemel Hempstead; West Hull v Egremont; Wigan St Patricks v Askam; Woolston v Blackpool. First division: Beverley v Milom; Dewsbury Celtic v Leigh East; East Leeds v Mayfield; Oulton v Wakey Central. Second division: Barrow Island v Oldham St Annes; Blackbrook v Milford; Greetland AR v Eastmoor; Moldgreen v Shaw Cross. Cup: Semi-final: Heworth v Lock Lane.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Guildford v London (8.0); Hemel Hempstead v Birmingham (7.30); Leicester v Manchester (8.0); Oldham v Derby (8.0); Sunderland v Worthing (7.30); Thames Valley v Doncaster (8.0).

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bury v Stockton; Coventry v Sheffield; Solent v Ware; Cardiff v Plymouth.

BADMINTON

NEC, Birmingham: All-England championships.

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship

England v Wales (at Twickenham, 2.45)
Scotland v France (at Murrayfield, 2.30)

Courage Clubs' Championship

Fifth division north

Rotherham v Durham

Insurance Corporation Irish League

First division

Blackrock College v Lansdowne (2.30)
Cork Const v Young Munster (2.30)
Greystones v St Mary's College (2.30)
Shannon v Garryowen (2.30)
Wanderers v Dungannon (2.30)

SECOND DIVISION (2.30): Bangor v Sunday's Well; Dolphin v Ballymena; Galwegians v Old Belvedere; Old Crescent v Malone; Terenure v Ballina.

Club matches

B'ham/Solihull v Towcestrians (2.30)
Broughton Park v Bradford and Bingley
Camborne v Exeter
Durham City v Hartlepool Rovers
Fylde v Sale (12.30)
Guildford v Havant (2.30)
Henley v Southend (2.30)
Kendal v Hull
Liverpool St Helens v Tynedale
London Welsh v Cardiff (11.00)
Maidenhead v Oxford (2.30)
Melrose v Langholm (10.30)
Newcastle Gosforth v Morley
Preston Grasshoppers v Huddersfield
Redruth v Penryn
Richmond v London Scottish (11.00)
Sandal v Winnington Park (2.30)
Sheffield v Waterloo
Stirling Co v Gordonians (11.00)
Vale of Lune v Nuneaton (2.30)
Walsall v Basingstoke
Watsonians v Glasgow High (11.30)
West Hartlepool v Leeds
Weston-super-Mare v Stourbridge (2.30)

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND LEAGUE: Finals: Senior men: Lewisham v Tooting. Senior women: Sale v Britannia.

BOXING

MILLWALL FC: World Boxing Organisation heavyweight championship: Michael Bentt (US, holder) v Herbie Hide (GB).

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Sheffield Wednesday v Blackburn (4.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Crystal Palace v Charlton

Anglo-Italian Cup final

Notts County v Brescia (at Wembley)

EIRE GAUS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Group A: Cork City v Shelbourne (3.30).

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-finals: Derry City v St Patrick's Ath (3.30); Home Farm v Bohemians (3.30); Limerick v Monaghan Utd (3.30).

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: First division: Brislington v Bishop Sutton.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Doncaster v Chester (5.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

John Smith's International

France v Great Britain (at Carcassonne)

JJB Sports Academy International

France v Great Britain (at Carcassonne, 1.0)

Stones Bitter Championship

Featherstone v Widnes (3.30)
Halifax v Hull KR
Hull v Sheffield (3.15)
Oldham v Wakefield

Second division

Batley v Swinton
Doncaster v Highfield
Hunslet v Rochdale (3.30)
Keighley v Carlisle (3.15)
London Crusaders v Workington
Ryedale York v Bramley (3.15)
Whitehaven v Huddersfield

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Nottingham City v Chorley (2.30).

RUGBY UNION

Tour match

England Emerging Players v Canada A (at Richmond, 2.30)

CLUB MATCH: Tiverton v Devon.

HOCKEY

AEWHA CUP: Blisam Leicester v Ealing; Bracknell v Loughborough Students; Chelmsford v Tulse Hill; Exmouth v Aldridge; Guildford v Hightown; Ipswich v First Personnel Sutton Coldfield; Otton v Doncaster; Slough v Bradford Swithenbank.

AEWHA PLATE: Chester v Bedeyhealth; Deeside Ramblers v Croetyc; Hampstead and Westminster v Greater Manchester Police; Letchworth v Bridgnorth; Lillington v Old Loughtonians; Redbridge and Ilford v West Witney; Saracens v Green Dragons; Springfields v Eastleigh.

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: All-England championships (NEC, Birmingham).

ROWING: Women's Boat Race (Hanley, 3.0).

THE TIMES
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TODAY'S MATCH WILL SORT OUT THE MEN FROM THE BOYOS.
NIKE
England are wearing our boots at Twickenham. Wales aren't.

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GOLD CUP WINNER REMAINS ON COURSE FOR NATIONAL

SPORT

TENNIS 43
GRAF SOWING SEEDS OF DOUBT AMONG RIVALS

SATURDAY MARCH 19 1994

England narrow favourites in five nations' championship showdown

Anglo-Welsh rivalry now thriving again

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WELCOME back Wales. When rugby union in the valleys is in decline, the game in Britain and Ireland is the poorer, so there is double the pleasure in the arrival to play England at Twickenham this afternoon, for their hundredth meeting, of a Wales team that is seeking to win the five nations' championship grand slam.

There is a wholly justified excitement in the principality that one of sport's great traditions — the rivalry between England and Wales — is back where it belongs. In recent years, it has been supplanted by the series with Scotland, a series sometimes tarnished by an unhealthy nationalism and which did not provide the lustre that the Welsh, historically, have brought to rugby.

"Anyone got a ticket?" will be heard from plaintive Welsh voices in west London today. If you have a spare £1,400, you might find a couple together on the black market, and there was the story of the unemployed Rhondda man who sold the slates from his roof to raise the capital for the journey to London. Part of the heritage, too, was that he did not mind watching the game in a pub, so long as he had made the pilgrimage east.

The rivalry has been played up by both teams. When, the Welsh have asked gently, will England score a try, as though hoping to lure Will Carling's team into the free-running indiscretions that, three years ago, cost them a World Cup final against Australia?

That occasion was also graced by the Queen and Her Majesty's presence this afternoon may serve as an uncomfortable reminder to England of the mistakes they made then.

England will have none of it. True to character, Carling claimed yesterday that "emotions don't win matches". The remark was apropos Geoff Cooke's farewell to the team manager's role but it might as well have applied to England's whole approach since 1991, when they cast off the carefree rugby they had played in 1990 and allowed the iron deep into their collective soul.

Carling was half right, half wrong. Wales will dig deep into the emotions before the Save and Prosper international match and hope that they do not spill over — as they did at the start of the game with Scotland in January, when Garin Jenkins, the Swansea hooker, might have been sent off amid a flurry of punches. Emotion can carry a team forward on a swelling tide, though discipline and character are required to complete the task.

Wales have produced that character to arrive here unbeaten, an event entirely unexpected after their ragged, unintelligent game against Canada last November.

It is a metamorphosis few could have predicted, based squarely on a competitive back row and the goal-kicking of Neil Jenkins who, having kicked a world record eight penalty goals against the Canadians, has now accumulated 45 points in the championship, four penalty goals in each game, which is seven short of Paul Thorburn's record in 1986. Plus, of course, the native wit to seize try-scoring chances, which has been so absent from England's efforts.

Those six tries will serve them well should the championship trophy depend on a countback but the feeling persists that this Wales team is not yet strong enough to claim a ninth grand slam — not, at any rate, at Twickenham, which, for all the disappointment of England's last outing there against Ireland, remains so formidable a venue.

Both countries have tried to devolve favouritism on the other but I believe England are the more likely winners, though not by the 16-point margin they need to snatch the championship away from Wales.

That, too, would be apt. England's rugby over the season — in fact, over the past two seasons — has not been consistent enough to earn a championship, even though it has included results against New Zealand and France, the others would give their eye teeth for.

They will seek the same control they showed against those opponents as they try to integrate Ian Hunter into the side at full back — one more change in a season of so many. The normally affable Northampton full back betrayed how vital this game is for him by keeping his lips sealed yesterday.

Rightly, he wants his actions to speak louder than any words and, perhaps, convince sceptical selectors that he is due a long run at No 15 rather than on the wing.

Jenkins, surely, will test him early while Tony Underwood's defence will receive an equal examination after the short, sharp shock of his omission from the side that won in Paris.

But every midfield Welshman poses a threat, notably the underestimated Nigel Davies, who is now blossoming after the stop-start selection that characterised his early career.

That is not to ignore England's backs, who have attacked, ball in hand, rather more than many critics remember this season. Man for man, Cooke has said, he would happily back his backs against all-comers. But not before his forwards, led in his fiftieth international by the gap-toothed, narrow-eyed Brian Moore, have paved the way for the 49th and last match of the Cooke era.

Andrew portrait, page 42
Murrayfield preview, page 42

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	3	0	0	70	36	6
England	3	2	0	1	45	41	4
Ireland	4	1	1	2	49	70	3
France	3	1	0	2	64	57	2
Scotland	3	0	1	2	26	50	1

RESULTS: Jan 15: France 35 Ireland 15, Wales 29 Scotland 6. Feb 5: Ireland 15 Wales 17, Scotland 14 England 15. Feb 19: England 12 Ireland 13, Wales 24 France 15. Mar 5: France 14 England 18, Ireland 6 Scotland 6. Today: England v Wales, Scotland v France.

If England and Wales end level on match points and with an equal points difference, the five nations' trophy will go to the side that has scored the most tries. Wales have scored six from their three matches and England none.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT TWICKENHAM

ENGLAND		WALES
I Hunter (Northampton)	15	M A Rayer (Cardiff)
T Underwood (Leicester)	14	I C Evans (Llanelli, capt)
W D C Carling (Harlequins, capt)	13	M R Hall (Cardiff)
P R de Glanville (Bath)	12	N G Davies (Llanelli)
R Underwood (Leicester/RAF)	11	N Walker (Cardiff)
C R Andrew (Wasps)	10	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)
C D Morris (Orrell)	9	R H St J B Moon (Llanelli)
J Leonard (Harlequins)	1	R L Evans (Llanelli)
B C Moore (Harlequins)	2	G R Jenkins (Swansea)
V E Ubogu (Bath)	3	J D Davies (Neath)
T A K Rodber (N'pton/Army)	6	E W Lewis (Llanelli)
M O Johnson (Leicester)	4	P T Davies (Llanelli)
N C Redman (Bath)	5	G O Llewellyn (Neath)
B B Clarke (Bath)	7	M A Perego (Llanelli)
D Richards (Leicester)	8	L S Quinnell (Llanelli)

Referee: J M Fleming (Scotland)

Replacements: 16 J E B Callard (Bath), 17 M Catt (Bath), 18 K P P Bracken (Bristol), 19 S O Ojomoh (Bath), 20 G C Rowntree (Leicester), 21 R G R Dawe (Bath)

Replacements: 16 R N Jones (Swansea), 17 S D Hill (Cardiff), 18 A Clement (Swansea), 19 R C McBryde (Swansea), 20 H Williams-Jones (Llanelli), 21 A H Copsey (Llanelli).



Quinnell, of Wales, contemplates the five nations' confrontation with England during training yesterday

England choose Rowell to provide new spur

BY DAVID HANDS

ANOTHER North Countryman will take up the reins as manager of England's rugby union team when Jack Rowell succeeds Geoff Cooke next week. Rowell, whose Bath side has dominated English rugby for the last decade, was appointed yesterday by the Rugby Football Union (RFU) committee up to and including the 1995 World Cup.

The honorary post has been the exclusive preserve of the North since its inception: Michael Weston, from Durham, enjoyed an ill-starred five weeks in 1987 before Cooke, from Cumbria, took over. Now Rowell, 55, born in Hartlepool, takes the role for which he was the outstanding candidate.

The RFU has yet to announce how wide-ranging his job will be and whether he will have an assistant manager, details which will become known following the five nations' championship match against Wales at Twickenham this afternoon, when Cooke, who announced his resignation last week, concludes his six-year tenure.

Rowell, chief executive of the Dalgety food conglomerate, based in Market Harborough, will bring to the post those considerable leadership skills which have helped transform Bath from West Country also-rans to one of the leading club sides in Europe.

Though a back injury hindered his playing career at Oxford University, the 6ft 7in Rowell played lock for Hartlepool Rovers, Middlesbrough and Gosforth, whom he captained in 1971-72. He coached them to the John Player Cup in 1976 but moved to the West Country two years later and joined Bath, where his perceptive coaching and man-management created the team which has won seven cup finals and four league titles — and remains on course for a double this season.

Rowell's appointment means, inevitably, that he will sever his links with Bath but they they been preparing for that since he threw his hat into the ring by becoming coach to England B in New Zealand in 1992.

His first task, next weekend, will be selection of the national squad to tour South Africa in May.

Arsenal avoid favourites in draw

THE Arsenal manager, George Graham, who had been hoping they would be paired with Real Madrid in the semi-finals of the European Cup-Winners' Cup, must make do instead with the team that eliminated them. Arsenal were drawn yesterday to meet Paris Saint-Germain, with the first leg at Parc des Princes on March 29 and the return at Highbury on April 12 (Keith Pike writes).

Paris, five points clear in the French league, are likely to prove every bit as difficult to beat as Torino were on Wednesday, but Graham was not complaining about the draw, having avoided both Benfica, who eliminated them from the European Cup two seasons ago, and Parma, the favourites.

Graham said: "Paris Saint-Germain is a great challenge for us. They are running away with the French league and seem to have broken the dominance that Marseilles and Monaco had for so long."

EUROPEAN SEMI-FINAL DRAWS: Cup-Winners' Cup: Paris Saint-Germain v Arsenal, Benfica (Por) v Parma (It). Uefa Cup: Austria Salzburg v Karlsruhe (Ger), Cagliari (It) v Internazionale (It). *Matches to be played March 29 or 30 and April 12 or 13; first-named team at home in the first leg*

More football, page 37

Ambrose halts England's progress

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN GEORGETOWN, GUYANA

ENGLAND fought painstakingly to put the second Test out of West Indian range yesterday but Curtly Ambrose, an ominously reawakened force, denied their every effort. A total of 322 was prosperity itself by recent standards but against this team, on this ground, it was not enough to banish the spectre of defeat.

In two hours, either side of lunch on this second day, England lost their last five wickets for 46 runs. Once Michael Atherton had gone for 144, an innings that increases his stature in every sense, there was no further inspiration to delay the West Indies, merely honest endeavour.

Nobody surrendered lightly but the overnight projection was for 400 to make the game safe. The shortfall was substantial enough to revive memories of the last Test played at Bourda, three years ago, when Australia batted first, scored 348, and lost by nine wickets. It was an image that loomed larger when Desmond Haynes and Richie Richardson began the reply with a positive half-century opening stand.

The most unwelcome sight for English eyes was of Ambrose taking a keener interest in their welfare than had been evident on this tour so far. Unquestionably the best bowler on either side, Ambrose had hitherto looked listless, lacking the verve, vigour and even the terrifying glare that characterise his prime times.

He took only two wickets in the Jamaica Test and two more, expensively, in the one-day series. It was said that he had a shoulder problem.

It is also widely believed that cricket no longer drives him as it did, and that soon he will retire. His early efforts on Thursday did nothing to discourage the suspicion that he is anxious to put his feet up but the dormant fires were rekindled by the unusual sight of England in the ascendant. Two good wickets with the second new ball, late on the first evening, were followed by two more yesterday, including the critical one of Atherton. With each new spell, Ambrose was more animated and his final figures of four for 58 serve as a solemn warning for the quicker, more responsive pitches still to come.

This Georgetown pitch still has no pace at all but that does not make it straightforward to bat upon. Yesterday, the ball came through still more unevenly than on the opening day and there is reason to suspect it will deteriorate further by Tuesday. If England achieve parity, or better, on first innings, victory could be theirs but that does not alter the fact that they failed to make the most of Richardson's generosity in putting them in, and of Atherton's monumental innings.

It was the highest score made by an England player in a Georgetown Test since Sir Len Hutton's 169 in the nine-wicket victory of 1954. Physically and mentally drained by Thursday evening, when he had to grit his teeth to survive the last half-hour, Atherton initially found his rhythm elusive yesterday, when play resumed on schedule despite several hours of overnight rain.

Watched by another thin crowd, it was the sixth over of the morning before he announced himself back in business, driving a good-length ball from Walsh to the cover boundary. Two balls later, Atherton stood up, weight on the back foot, to hit him imperiously through mid-off.

Ambrose at last produced a good one for him, committing the shot on off-stump and straightening marginally to take the edge. Salisbury was prised out after a valiant 88-minute vigil as night-watchman but Lewis offered hope that the innings had more to offer, hooking Walsh for six with the command of balance and timing that frequently has one wondering why he does not make more runs.

The need here was for caution: the longer West Indies could be kept in the field, the better it would suit England. West Indies, after all, are not accustomed to entering a fifth session of bowling, especially against England, and there was an element of world-weariness about their manner and their over-rate, a miserly 13 an hour, as England crept past 300.

Russell and Lewis had added 41 when the last three wickets fell on the same score. Two were to slip catches by the safe-handed Richardson and the third saw Igglesden bowled by a ball that pitched and scuttled through at ankle-height, a sight to give bowlers hope.

Clement Freud, page 39
John Woodcock, page 39

GEORGETOWN SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND: First Innings

*M A Atherton c Murray b Ambrose (412mn, 296 balls, 17 fours)	144
A J Stewart b Walsh (5mn, 4 balls)	0
M R Ramprakash lbw b Walsh (6mn, 6 balls)	2
R A Smith c Lara b K Benjamin (217mn, 160 balls, 11 fours, 1 six)	84
G A Hick c Richardson b Ambrose (97mn, 77 balls, 3 fours, 1 six)	33
G P Thorpe b Ambrose (19mn, 13 balls)	0
I D K Salisbury lbw b Benjamin (99mn, 60 balls, 1 four)	8
R C Russell c Richardson b Ambrose (119mn, 72 balls, 1 four)	18
C C Lewis c Richardson b K Benjamin (98mn, 63 balls, 1 six)	17
A R C Fraser not out (9mn, 4 balls)	0
A P Igglesden b K Benjamin (1mn, 2 balls)	0
Extras (lb 14, nb 7)	21
Total (541mn, 124.5 overs)	322

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-2, 3-173, 4-245, 5-253, 6-276, 7-281, 8-322, 9-322.

BOWLING: Ambrose 30-8-58-4; Walsh 26-7-69-2; K C G Benjamin 23.5-5-60-3; W K M Benjamin 26-9-62-1; Adams 3-1-10-0; Chanderpaul 16-2-49-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

D L Haynes not out (82mn, 40 balls, 2 fours)	22
*R B Richardson not out (62mn, 45 balls, 2 fours)	20
Extras (lb 1, nb 1)	2
Total (no wkt, 62mn, 14 overs)	45

B C Lara, K L T Arthurton, S Chanderpaul, J C Adams, †J R Murray, W K M Benjamin, C E L Ambrose, K C G Benjamin and C A Walsh to bat.

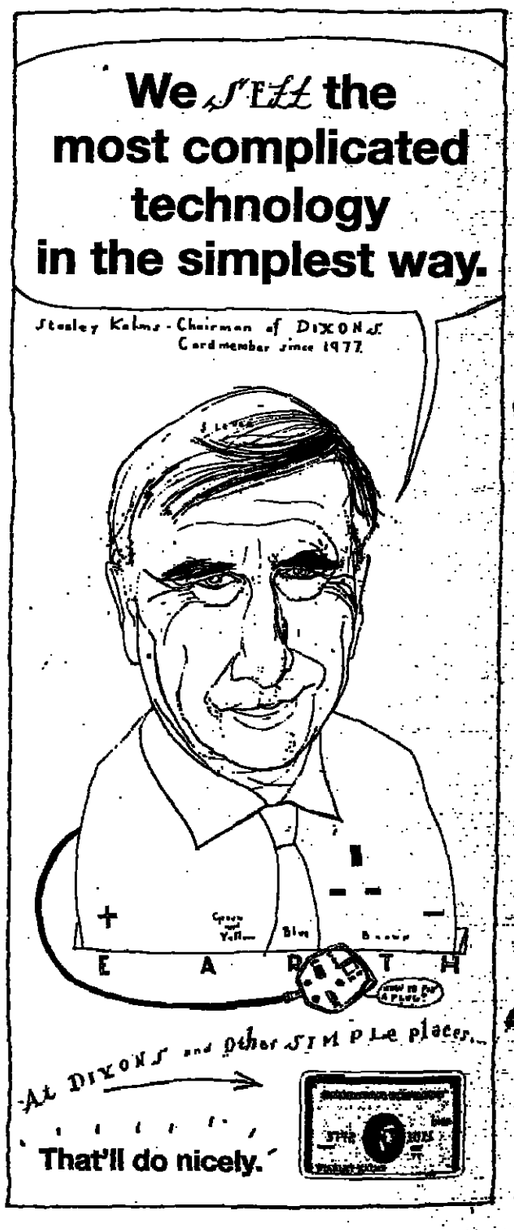
BOWLING: Lewis 5-0-14-0; Igglesden 5-0-16-0; Fraser 2-0-6-0; Salisbury 2-0-9-0.

Umpires: C R Duncan (West Indies) and S Venkataraghavan (India)

Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand).



Thousands have signed up to play First Class XI, our cricket game. Today, there is another chance to enter. Turn to page 38.



BOOKS



Keeping the Steinbeck flame burning

PLUS: Magic of Book Wizard, pages 16-17

ARTS



Bowled over by Plymouth's theatrical revival

PLUS: Free jazz CD offer, pages 5-9

GARDENING



Cornish camellias and marvellous magnolias

PLUS: Grow monster vegetables, page 22

OUTDOORS

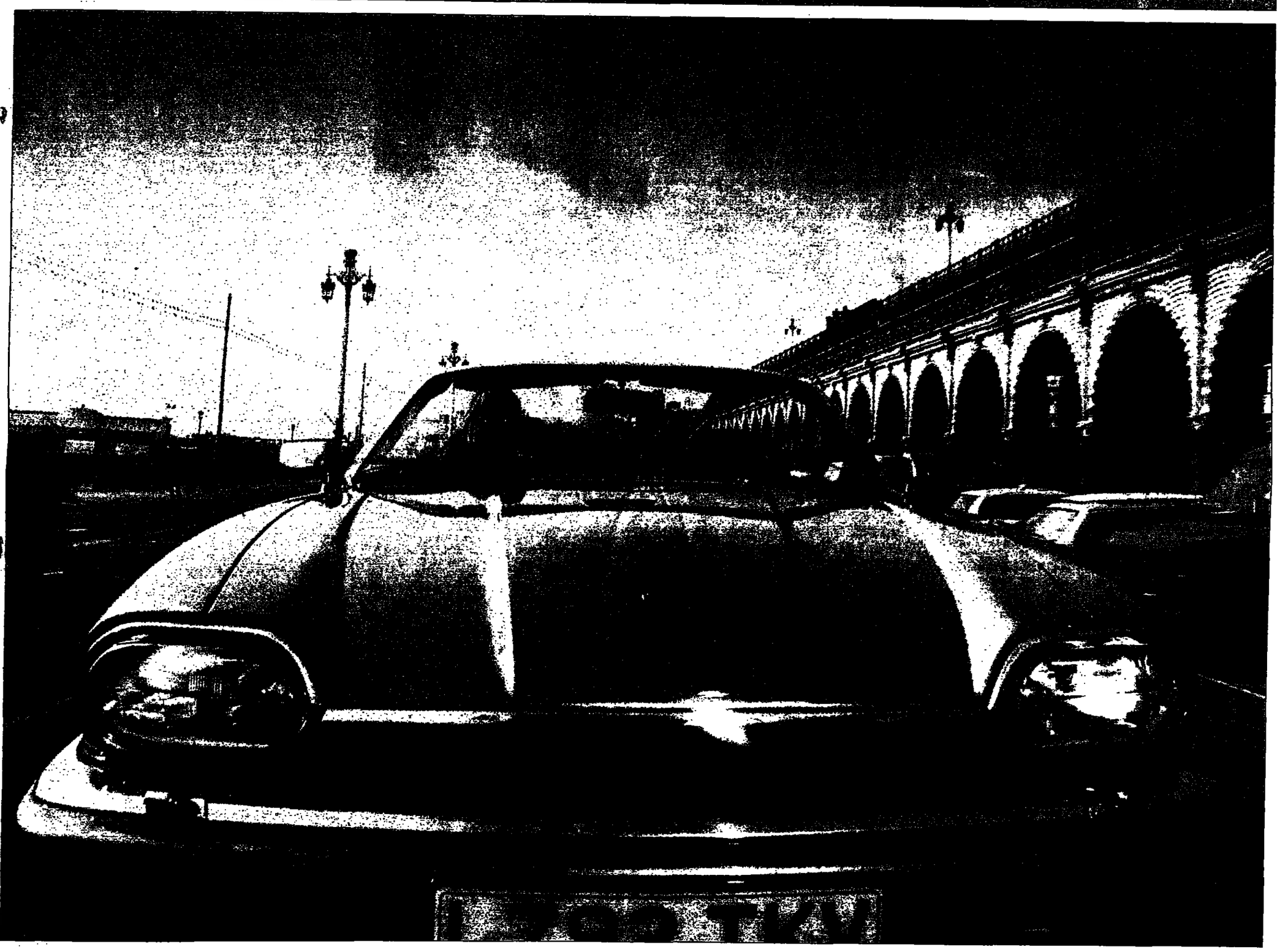


Paul Heiney on cows to help Uganda

PLUS: Shire horses earn their keep, page 18

WEEKEND

LYNNE TRUSS: MY TOPLESS DAY IN BRIGHTON



In all probability, every driver on the road assumes they have a sane, proper and unexceptional relationship with their car. Personally, as I plough my rattling underpolished A-reg Peugeot 205 up and down the M23 singing chirpy Madness ditties — "I like driving in my car, beep beep, wah wah, beep beep, It's not quite a Jag-u-ar" — I assume my behaviour is perfectly normal. I kick the crisp packets away from the pedals, rub the misty windscreen with my sleeve, and urge the engine to greater efforts ("Come on, car") without a second thought.

But in a daring experiment, *The Times Weekend* borrowed a new Jaguar XJS convertible on my behalf, begged me to dress up a bit and, although neglecting to tell me how to release the handbrake (it was all right, I called out the RAC), gave me an excellent send-off. Cruise Brighton, they said. Use half a tank of petrol if you like, no expense spared. Put the hood down despite freezing gales. And just see how heads turn.

I normally never look at other drivers, and I assume nobody is looking at me. I care so little about cars as desirable objects that I learnt only last week the gladsome news that UK registration had reached the letter "L". However, to judge by Nicholas Barker's new Friday night television "comedy of manners", *From A to B* (BBC2), my assumptions about my normality are correct only in so far as all drivers are deranged solipsists. As for my identification with those happy-go-lucky Madness lyrics, well, that's not normal.

"Don't look much but I've been far"? "I've even been to Selsey Bill"? Such sentiments are significantly unheard from the passionately desirous contributors to Barker's programme, one of whom says seriously, "I'd like to end my life in my car", and most of whom relish the car as an extension of their self-image; revel in the attention they get from other drivers. Getting you from A to B is apparently the last thing cars are for: the first programme even featured a teenager who spends happy hours in his orange VW Beetle.

Continued on page 3, col 1

Impressionist,
Modern and
Contemporary Art.
Including
Picasso
Ceramics.



Our next Impressionist, Modern and Contemporary Art auction takes place over two days at Sotheby's in London next week.

As well as works by artists such as Miro, Leger, Dufy and Magritte there is a wonderful collection of ceramics and silver by Pablo Picasso.

Viewing of these sales is free and open to the public as follows:

Sunday 20th March from 12 noon to 4pm.
Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd March from 9am to 4.30pm.

In addition there is a special opportunity to view on the evening of Monday 21st March from 6pm to 8.30pm. The Contemporary Art sale is also viewing Wednesday 23rd March from 9am to 4.30pm.

The sales will take place as follows:

Impressionist and Modern Art and Ceramics on Wednesday 23rd March at 10.30am & 2.30pm.
Contemporary Art on Thursday 24th March at 10.30am.

Both sales take place in the Main Galleries, 34-35 New Bond Street.

Sales enquiries (Monday-Friday):
Impressionist and Modern Art – Adrian Biddell on 071 408 5395.
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CHOICE

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JAZZ

Clive Davis

DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER: There is a long and distinguished tradition of black jazz artists crossing the Atlantic to settle in France. Dee Dee Bridgewater, acclaimed as a latter day Sarah Vaughan, made the trip in 1986, and soon won praise for her portrayal of Billie Holiday in the play *Lady Day*, which ran in Paris, London and Hamburg. An experienced actress, Bridgewater had earlier picked up a Tony Award for her role in the Broadway musical *The Wiz*. Her mastery of jazz standards was displayed on last year's Verve album *Keeping The Tradition*.
Birmingham Town Hall, Victoria Square (021-236 3889), Thursday 24, 8pm; **Queen's Hall**, Clerk Street, Edinburgh (031-668 2019), Friday 25, 8.30pm; **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Saturday 26, 7.45pm; **Royal Exchange**, St Ann's Square, Manchester (061-833 9833), Sunday 27, 8pm.

JIMMY SMITH: The star of countless Blue Note sessions in the 1950s and 1960s, Jimmy Smith could fairly claim to be the father of the modern Hammond organ. A late starter, he did not take up the instrument until he was in his mid-twenties. His soulful, high-spirited music formed part of the soundtrack to life for the coffee bar generation and, thanks in part to the acid jazz boom, he continues to pull in the crowds. Saxophonist Herman Riley shares the solo duties in Smith's current quartet, alongside guitarist Terry Evans.
Dingwalls Jazz Factory, Camden Lock, London NW1 (071-267 1999/916 2200), Sunday 20, 7pm, Monday 21 to Thursday 24, 8pm.

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

KATYA KABANOVA: A return visit confirms that the combination of Bernard Haitink's luminous conducting and Trevor Nunn's spare yet spectacular production makes this still the best operatic buy of the week. Elena Prokina gives a superb performance of the title role. Monica Groop has settled down nicely as Varvara, and Eva Randová's monstrous mother-in-law is a masterpiece of understatement. Next week's performances are the last in the current run.
Royal Opera House, Bow Street, London WC2 (071-240 1066/1911), Tuesday 22 and Friday 25, 7.30pm.



Melodious: *The Pearl Fishers*

THE PEARL FISHERS: If opera is about tunes, and there are many who wish, if not believe, that it were, then Bizet's youthful *jeu d'esprit* must be one of the best. Forget the broken-backed libretto, no better and no worse than many of its time (1863), just sit back and enjoy melody after gorgeous melody. Philip Prowse's ENO production is colourful and odorous (exotic spices are burnt on stage), Alexander Sander's conducting is properly vigorous, and the singing is very good indeed. Picture shows Jonathan Summers (Zurga) on the left and John Hudson (Nadir).
London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), Saturday 19, 2.30pm and 7.30pm, Wednesday 23 and Friday 25, 7.30pm.

DANCE

John Percival

ROYAL BALLET: Two of Frederick Ashton's ballets have a brief return to the repertoire, both of them translating plays into dance form. *The Dream* is his romantic comedy after Shakespeare set to Mendelssohn's music; a late cast change brings the highly promising young Sarah Wildor's debut as Titania next Saturday afternoon. Pieces by Chopin accompany Ashton's treatment of Turgenev's drama *A Month in the Country*, in which Sylvie Guillem and Bruce Sansom take the leads at the evening performances. With these comes David Bintley's latest Covent Garden creation, *Tombeaux*, an atmospheric set of dances to William Walton's music.
Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066), Wednesday 23, 7.30pm; Saturday 26, 2pm and 7pm.

NACHO DUATO: Tonight is the last chance to see Spain's National Dance Company in London, giving four works by their young director and choreographer Nacho Duarto. But next week they move to Glasgow where they alternate this progamme with three other ballets by him. The quality of the dancers is a strong attraction: young, lively and excitingly theatrical.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916), Saturday 19, 7.30pm.
Theatre Royal, Hope Street, Glasgow (041-332 9000), Tuesday 22 to Saturday 26, 7.15pm.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

SCHNITTKE AT 60: Each year the Royal Academy of Music presents an intense few days of concerts devoted to a distinguished living composer. Alfred Schnittke is a fascinating figure. The "successor to Shostakovich", but perhaps an even more enigmatic personality, he writes music that is highly ironic, often mimicking earlier composers in a way that seems sarcastic one moment, deeply-felt the next. Some 22 of the Russian's works are played between Tuesday and Friday, three of them British premieres.
Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (071-873 7300), Tuesday 22, 7.30pm; Wednesday 23 to Friday 25, 1.05pm, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.30pm. Tickets are free, but must be booked.

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC: Regular visitors to London these days, thanks to a unique London/Paris/Berlin/Vienna concert series, the Vienna Philharmonic plays this concert under the flamboyant direction of Zubin Mehta, principal conductor of the Israel Philharmonic. Though hardly the critics' favourite conductor, Mehta on his day and in the right repertoire can still make the sparks fly. Here he conducts two composers with whom he is particularly associated: Schubert (Sixth Symphony) and Strauss (Symphonia Domestica).
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Thursday 24, 7.30pm.



ALPHA AGENCY

Jazz singer Dee Dee Bridgewater, seen here in her Billie Holiday incarnation, is back on tour

ROCK

David Sinclair

MEAT LOAF: A huge performer in every sense, Meat Loaf boasts an unrivalled reputation for grandiloquent excess. His show is a lengthy and fevered production, not so much a collection of songs more a succession of extended emotional broadsides. Subtlety is not at a premium, but you have to marvel at the sheer, unbridled effrontery of the man. Having been all but washed up and without even a UK recording contract in the latter part of the 1980s, he effected a stunning comeback with his *Bat Out Of Hell II — Back Into Hell*, which became the biggest selling album in Britain last year. Definitely a fighter not a quitter.
Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Finnieston Street, Glasgow (041-248 3000), Saturday 19, 7.30pm. **Wembley Arena**, Empire Way, Middlesex (081-900 1234), Monday 21, Wednesday 23, Thursday 24, 7.30pm.

THE WONDER STUFF: They've been doing the rounds for eight years now, and even topped the chart in 1992 with their version of "Dizzy" (featuring comedian Vic Reeves), but the Wonder Stuff remain a strident antidote to the calm professionalism of so-called "adult" rock acts. Their current album, *Construction For The Modern Idiot*, is an energetic combination of alternative rock, pop and folk influences, and on stage their bustling approach ensures an evening of stylish pandemonium.
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, St Peters Square (0902 312030), Saturday 19, 7.30pm. **Newcastle City Hall**, Northumberland Road (091-261 2606), Monday 21, 7.30pm. **Sands Centre**, Handwick Gardens, Carlisle (0228 25222), Tuesday 22, 7.30pm. **Barrowlands**, 244 Gallowgate, Glasgow (041-552 4601), Thursday 24, Friday 25, 7.30pm.

FILM

Geoff Brown

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE (U): Eat beforehand, otherwise the sight of those tables groaning with elegant food and cutlery will cause loud stomach rumbles. Not that Scorsese makes a fetish of period detail in this spellbinding, heartfelt version of Edith Wharton's novel about turn-of-the-century New York: choking social ritual lies at the drama's heart. Daniel Day-Lewis is the lawyer bound for a safe marriage with Winona Ryder, until the arrival of Michelle Pfeiffer. Scorsese's camera glides and caresses, uncovering hidden emotional depths in the slightest of social gestures.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096), **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279), **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666), **Mezzanine** (0426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098), **Warner** (071-437 4343).

AUTUMN MOON: The ICA Cinema may be cursed with some of London's least comfortable seats, but Hong Kong film-maker Clara Law's feature is arresting enough to make you forgive and forget. Her subject is the fragility of culture and human contact; her astonishing colour palette, blue and grey, which makes the most arid modern architecture appear beautiful. "No fish here," the 15-year-old heroine says, as she finds a Japanese youth, rod outstretched on the waterfront. Their touching, often funny relationship is set against a poetic background far from the bustling Hong Kong seen in most movies.
ICA Cinema, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 3647).

ART

Benedict Nightingale

AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY: Feydeau's hotels are to sexual predators what jampots are to wasps — and, thanks largely to a demure and dainty Felicity Kendal and a surprisingly slick and spivvish Griff Rhys Jones, Peter Hall's production never stops fizzing and buzzing.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (071-497 5067), Monday 21 to Saturday 26, 7.45pm; matinées Wednesday 23, Saturday 26, 3pm.

TRAVESTIES: Adrian Noble's revival of Tom Stoppard's intellectual teaser makes a well merited transfer from the Barbican, complete with surreal red-and-cream sets, the excellent Antony Sher as the consular official who sued James Joyce for the cost of a pair of trousers, and witty speculation galore about the importance of art.
Savoy, Strand, London WC2 (071-836 8888), Thursday 24 to Saturday 26, 7.30pm, matinée Saturday 26, 2.30pm.

John Russell Taylor

TREASURED MINIATURES: Though the practical purpose of the Netsuke — as a toggle to hold things in place on pocketless traditional Japanese clothing — has long vanished, the Netsuke as an art form persists. Contemporary practitioners no longer use elephant ivory, but they use an extraordinary range of materials, and some of the contemporary interpretations of the form in this exhibition are very surprising.
British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (071-636 1555), Mondays to Saturdays, 10am to 5pm, Sundays, 2.30pm to 6pm, until April 17.

ARTISTS AS RUG-MAKERS: Ben Nicholson and his family circle did not live exclusively in the rarified atmosphere of abstract paintings. Especially during his first marriage, to the painter Winifred Nicholson, a lot of very basic, jolly craftwork went on around the house, including the designing and making of rag rugs on such subjects as the family dog Slinky. The tradition continues in the work of Timothy Nicholson, Ben's nephew.
Pallant House, 9 North Pallant, Chichester (0243 774557), Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10am to 5.30pm (last admissions are at 4.45pm), until May 21.

Richard Cork



Friar Pedro: detail from a Goya

GOYA — SMALL PAINTINGS: Of all the Spanish Arts Festival's offerings, Goya at the Royal Academy is the most darkly dramatic. Concentrating on his modest-sized paintings, the exhibition reveals this mercurial artist at his most unbridled. After a dutiful start, tackling religious commissions, Goya unleashes the full force of his obsessions. Horrifying scenes of butchery, madness and sorcery fill his pictures. Their raw savagery contrasts with the bravura mastery of his technique. Goya breaks free from the limitations of his age to become the first truly modern artist, with enthralling results. Picture shows a detail from *Friar Pedro wrests the gun from Maragato*.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438), daily, 10am-6pm, until June 12.

DALI AND UNBOUND: POSSIBILITIES IN PAINTING: An unpredictable double bill at the Hayward Gallery, where the shameless showman of Surrealism is coupled with an international survey of painting today. Although Salvador Dali is probably the most widely known of modern painters, his early years are far less familiar. The Hayward show reveals him as precocious but oddly unsure of his identity. He adopts older artists' styles like clothes, wearing then discarding them with bewildering haste. Only near the end does he arrive at his bizarre Surrealist persona. Then visitors discover that the rest of the gallery is given over to a lively exploration of painting in the 1990s. Abstract and figurative art alternate, sometimes within the same canvas. No new movement or style is announced, but the overall mood is sprightly.
Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 3144), daily, 10am-6pm (Tues, Wed to 8pm), until May 30.

CHILDREN

CHESHIRE

Magic Show and Boat Museum: Offers displays on the history of boats plus a Grand Spring Craft Fair.
Boat Museum, Dockyard Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire (051-355 5017). Saturday 19 and Sunday 20, 10am-5pm (Magic shows start at 11am). Adults and children £1.50.

KENT

Secret Underground Grotto: Plus a maze, aviary and running wildfowl. Also Spring Garden Week for adults and would-be junior gardeners.
Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent (0622 765400). Saturday 19 and Sunday 20, 10am-5pm. Adults £5.50, children £3.30.



Will Big Ears approve?

OXFORD

Noddy: Last chance to see *Noddy* in Oxford. Adapted and directed by David Wood. Peep under that jingling cap and there's a woman — what would Big Ears have thought?
The Apollo, George Street (0865 244544). Saturday 19, 11am, 2.30pm, 6pm. Adults from £6, children from £4.

YORKSHIRE

Prehistoric Sea Monsters: New exhibition of 15m long robotic sea creatures which look as though they are really moving through the water.
Yorkshire Museum, Museum Gardens, York (0904 629745). Open Thursday 24, daily 10am-5pm. Adults £3, children £1.75.

Family Fun Day Concert: Tune your voices with the group Swoop, which will play tunes from round the world. Everyone welcome to join in.
Merlin Theatre, 2 Meadowbank Road, Sheffield (0742 551638). Adults £2.50, children £1, family ticket (total of four) £5.

LONDON

The Cottle Sisters Circus: Jugglers, gymnasts, acrobats and roller-skating round the roof of the big top.
Crown Meadow, Bromley Common Market Site, Bromley (0836 222232). Saturday 19 and Sunday 20, 2pm and 5pm. Adults from £6, children from £4.

Mud, Glorious Mud: This is the title of a talk for seven-year-olds upwards on the importance of mud to the eco system. Or what about a talk (same age group) on Nature's Space Probes (meteorites)? All part of National Science Week.
Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-938 9123). Saturday 19, 12.15pm (Space Probes) and 1.30pm (Mud). Adults £4.50, children £2.20. Family ticket (2 adults and 4 children) £12.

Partners by Design: Glean some practical "make" tips from this exhibition of schoolchildren's work in conjunction with design professionals.
The Design Council, 28 Haymarket Place (071-839 8000). Saturday 19, 10am-6pm and Sunday 20, 10am-4pm. Admission free.

World Weather Day: Meet BBC weather presenters Penny Tranter and Rob McElwee; learn how to measure the weather.
Science Museum, Exhibition Road, South Kensington (071-938 8000). Wednesday 23, 10.30am-4pm. Adults £4.50, children £2.40.

SCOTLAND

Model Toy and Collectors' Fair: A treat for enthusiasts.
New Lanark Visitors Centre, Lanark (0555 661345). Sunday 20, 12.00-4.30pm. Adults 50p, children 20p.

WALES

Return to the Forbidden Planet: Rock 'n' roll version of *The Tempest*. Might tempt them to read the real thing.
Grand Theatre, Singleton Street, Swansea (0792 475715). Saturday 19, 5pm and 8.30pm. Adults and children from £9.50.

JANE BIDDER

Ruth Gledhill finds the perfect setting for a woman priest to offer communion for the first time

AT YOUR SERVICE



A CHURCH described by Queen Elizabeth I in 1574 as "the goodliest, fairest and most famous parish church in England" seemed an appropriate place to witness a woman break bread and end the 450-year-old tradition of a male-only priesthood in the Church of England. Of the 32 women ordained priest at Bristol Cathedral last Saturday, two were from St Mary Redcliffe.

At our service the newly ordained Jane Hayward, aged 41, a qualified nurse, was allowed to consecrate the sacrament, break bread, elevate the chalice and pronounce the general blessing at the end. The Rev Clare Pipe-Wolferstan, a non-stipendiary minister, would celebrate later.

At this service at least, the fears of traditionalists that women priests would be the prelude to a radical feminist agenda seemed unfounded. We used the more traditional communion rite B from the Alternative Service Book 1980, and The English Hymnal. The service, with elements of ritual more usual in the Anglo-Catholic wing of the Church of England, was a convincing synthesis of old and new. After the initial shock at hearing the clear, soprano tones of a woman's voice pronouncing the eucharistic prayer, the meaning of the words became pre-eminent, the sex of the celebrant irrelevant.

Nearly every seat was taken. Tony Whatmough, vicar, announced: "This is a normal Sunday service. At the same time of course it is slightly special."

We began with Charles Wesley's moving hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling", during which a verger, two servers and the choir processed up the aisle, past Victorian oak-doored pews packed with well-wishers. At the rear, with priestly dignity, walked the Rev Jane Hayward, dressed according to high church tradition in a stylish cream unbleached linen chasuble over a white cassock alb.

She turned to face us, spread her arms wide and announced: "The Lord be with you." The strength of the response, "and with thy spirit", resounded through the columns and ornate vaulting. Yellow daffodils marked this day as Mothering Sunday, while the colours of the stained glass suggested a sunlit day outside quite in contrast to the wind and drizzle.

Geoffrey Robinson, a stained-glass artist and regular member of the congregation, said prayers, remembering "Jane and Clare celebrating their first eucharist" as well as those upset by the change and "alienated from the Church that they have known and loved".



The Rev Jane Hayward, right, with the Rev Glenys Mills in Bristol

As we moved into the eucharistic prayer, Ms Hayward sang parts of the liturgy, her unaccompanied voice as pure as a choirboy's. But it was as we moved further into the prayer that the meaning of words themselves became, for me, a surprising and unexpected validation of the decision to ordain women.

Afterwards, Hazel Cripps and Valerie Lee, stalwart women of the kind that for decades have been the backbone of the Church of England, celebrated with tea and biscuits in the undercroft. "We need more priests," said Mrs Cripps. "If the ladies are willing to come forward, why not let them be priests?" Mrs Lee added: "It was beautifully done by Jane. I think women have the same sense of vocation as men."

Everyone seemed reluctant to leave. Women, men and children stayed hugging, kissing and chatting in the nave, porch and transepts until the last possible moment before matins began, savouring their first experience of the ministry of a woman priest.

● *Sunday services: Holy Communion 8am, Sung Eucharist 9.30am, Choral Mattins 11.15am, Choral Evensong 6.30pm*

☐ St Mary Redcliffe, Redcliffe Way, Bristol BS1 6SP (0272 291487).

VICAR: The Rev Tony Whatmough

ARCHITECTURE: Medieval church in English perpendicular style, built mainly between 1315 and 1470 on remains of a Saxon building from 789. Famous for the beautiful Victorian spire, surrounded by ornately carved pinnacles. *****

SERMON: The Rev Graham Ward, chaplain and fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, compared the first ordinations of women priests the day before to the Easter story. "Lent has only just begun but already there are signs of resurrection," he said. ****

MUSIC: Traditional choir of men and boys only gave exquisite rendition of Kyrie from Byrd's three-part Mass for three voices, with main music from the Hereford service by Richard Lloyd. ****

LITURGY: Rite B, the better of the two modern communion services in the Alternative Service Book. ***

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Good quality instant coffee, tea and biscuits in the undercroft, with friendly chat. ****

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Extraordinary sense of elation by being in a church named after the mother of Christ on Mothering Sunday for one of the first communion services celebrated by a woman in England. *****

** Stars awarded to a maximum of five.*

First, kill your boar...

They're shooting them in Kent, eating them in Hampshire. Frances Bissell meets a man who knows what to do with a wild pig

JULIAN HERBERT



Sam Olive, the country's only breeder of the British Wild Blue — a cross between a wild boar and a Tamworth sow — at his farm in King's Somborne, Hampshire

My acquaintance with wild boar began, not long ago, with an intriguing message on my answering machine. "Frances, I'm killing a Wild Blue in a few weeks. Do you want to come down and make *cotechino*?" Mauro Bregoli, who made the invitation, is not a Kentish man with a high-powered rifle; he is an Italian who runs a restaurant in Romsey, Hampshire.

When I visited his restaurant, The Old Manor House, I had imagined that his *salumé* (salted meats) came from northern Italy. But they were, he told me, made from a British Wild Blue pig, a cross between a wild boar and a Tamworth sow, and it was the first time he had been able to make *salami* and *cotechino* (a fresh sausage) of Italian quality.

Stories of wild boar roaming the Kent countryside, jumping out of hedgerows and nipping the feet of passers-by, would have amused our 17th-century ancestors, who had a healthy respect for these fine beasts. They also had a high regard for the flavour of wild boar — if those ancestors were noble, that is; the peasants would be strung up for poaching the king's game.

Mauro, an expert marksman, has shot wild boar in Hampshire, but only within the spacious and secure farm of Sam Olive, the country's only breeder of Wild Blue. Before shooting a boar with his 7mm, Austrian-made Manlicker rifle, he spends time in the field with the animal to be culled. He has hunted wild boar in Italy, Spain and France and says they are *almost impossible to stalk* — they have sharp senses of smell and hearing if appalling eyesight — and have to be driven into the open to shoot.

In Britain, Mauro believes, you are allowed to kill a pig for your own use, but if any part of the pig or its products are to be sold it has to be killed in an abattoir. The Ministry of Agriculture says that if you shoot a wild boar you can sell it to butchers, and providing they comply with food hygiene regulations and the food safety act, they can then sell the meat to the consumer.

The wild boar that Mauro culls are for his or Mr Olive's own consumption; it is their Wild Blue progeny which end up on the menu at The Old Manor House.

Mauro took me to meet Mr Olive and his wild boar — Lech, Batori, Tamburlaine, Genghis Khan, Hitler and Mussolini. English-bred of Polish stock, they are tense, suspicious animals. Together with their offspring and the Tamworth sows, they range free on the farm.

The Wild Blue are slow-growing, with toned-up muscles. This yields pork that will butcher and cook well, holding together and slicing easily because of the minimal moisture content. A fat pig is essential for making sausages, and the pigs that Mr Olive raises for Mauro are fed, for the last few weeks, on micronised (finely ground) maize, mixed with hot water. And who would not thrive on that diet? It is, after all, *polenta*.

Mauro did not kill this Wild Blue himself but remembered how it was done at home. "When I was a kid, my grandfather would kill the pig. It was taken out of its sty, a big pig you know, 200-250kg [440-550lb], moving very slowly. They would tie a rope round one of the front legs to trip him over, and then, while he was lying on his side, they would kill him with a long, thin knife. Put in at the throat and drawn in a long, slanting cut between the front legs, it would go straight to the heart. That would kill it, and straight away they would cut the throat and collect the blood [used in blood sausages]."

Mauro's Wild Blue, and a companion destined for Pierre Koffman's kitchen at La Tante Claire in London, was taken in a van by Mr Olive's father to a small, local family-run abattoir. When it is time for the Wild Blues's undomesticated fathers to be killed, that cannot be done in an abattoir; Tamburlaine and the other boars are wild animals, and so they will have to be shot in the field by Mauro. Wild boar is lean meat, suitable for pork recipes; roasts, casseroles, even *pâtés* and terrines when combined with pork fat or belly pork.

Mauro bleeds, shaves, scrapes and hangs his boar before dividing it into joints. Anyone else fortunate enough to be the recipient of a wild boar will need to have a sympathetic butcher.



Frances Bissell and chef Mauro Bregoli

On the day the *cotechino* was made, Mauro had been up since 5am, boning out the loins and neck fillets in the kitchen of The Old Manor House, which is bright, cold and airy, the best conditions for making sausages. The neck fillets were lying in salt and would be bagged and cured to become *coppa* (a fatty, cured meat). The loins were seasoned and wrapped in the trimmed belly piece which would become, after curing, *pancetta coppata* (fatty meat with a lean loin in the middle). The rest of the carcase — head, tail, ears, rib and back bones, everything but the squeal — went into a large, copper cauldron. After long simmering, it was hauled out and the meat and skin were removed, coarsely chopped and mixed with garlic, salt, pepper and finely chopped orange zest. Mauro then added white wine, and stuffed the mixture by hand into pigs' bladders.

The sausages, weighing about 1.5kg each, were tied and pricked to remove any air bubbles. Suspended by a string from a wooden spoon, they were plunged into the boiling stock for two minutes to cook and tighten the skin, and then hung up to dry. Once cool, these sausages are refrigerated and ready to eat within two to 14 days. Called *coppa di testa*, they are eaten in thin slices, like brawn.

Mauro showed what we would be eating for dinner that night: a curious, tied and bulging sausage; bulbous and squat at one end, elongated at the other. This was a *salama da sugo*, two years old, and was put into a roasting bag, in a pan of simmering water, where it would sit for several hours. "This is what we will make next," Mauro said. "You'll be surprised at how much wine this one takes." The sausage is made of minced pig liver, tongue, cheek, jowl and prime cuts, 8.4k in all, about three-quarters of it lean and fat pork meat; one eighth liver and one eighth tongue. Salt, pepper and a little nutmeg, were added and, when mixed, Mauro tipped the meat on to a stainless-steel worktop, and spread it out. He made small wells in the pork mixture, and then poured a bottle of the house red over the mass of meat. He kneaded and squeezed, until all the wine had been absorbed. Another bottle and a half was worked in in the same way.

We took the meat to the sausage-making machine and scooped it into the hopper. With his right hand, Mauro clasped a bladder around the opening where the sausage meat was extruded, and with his left hand eased the mixture into the skin so that no air bubbles formed. At the crucial moment, he would shout "stop", seize a piece of string and deftly tie the sausage, using fingers and teeth, tying it first so that it looked like a melon, and then tying it around the middle. It was then hung up.

And so the day continued, a satisfying rhythm of mincing, mixing, filling, tying up and, best of all, hanging the sausages up to be admired — *gentile*, *soppressa di Veneto*, *salsiccie*, *coppa*, *salamina* and *cotechino*. The largest were the *soppressa di Veneto*. One weighed nearly 6kg, but it would lose more than 50 per cent of its weight during the six months it takes to cure. This is why good salami costs what it does; you are paying for the original weight of the ingredients.

By the end of the day, I had graduated to tying the *salsiccie* and *chorizos*. After a couple of hamfisted attempts at tying *cotechino*, I left this to Mauro's practised fingers. He let me measure out the salt for the *gentile*, a precise 28g per kilo of meat, and add the wine. That was the science. "Shall I add the pepper?" I asked. Mauro shook his head. "No, I have to do that." And that was the art, a scattering of mignonette pepper, a shower of chopped garlic, not precisely measured in grams or handfuls, but just the right amount to produce the perfectly seasoned sausage after its several months of curing.

● *The Old Manor House restaurant, 21 Palmerston St, Romsey, Hants. Closed Sun evening and Mon. (0794 517353).*

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WHERE TO BUY WILD BLUE

● *Wild Blue meat is available at the following places, but not in large quantities, because only about ten animals a week are slaughtered:*

● *Boucherie Lamartine, 229 Ebury St, London SW1 (071-730 3037).*

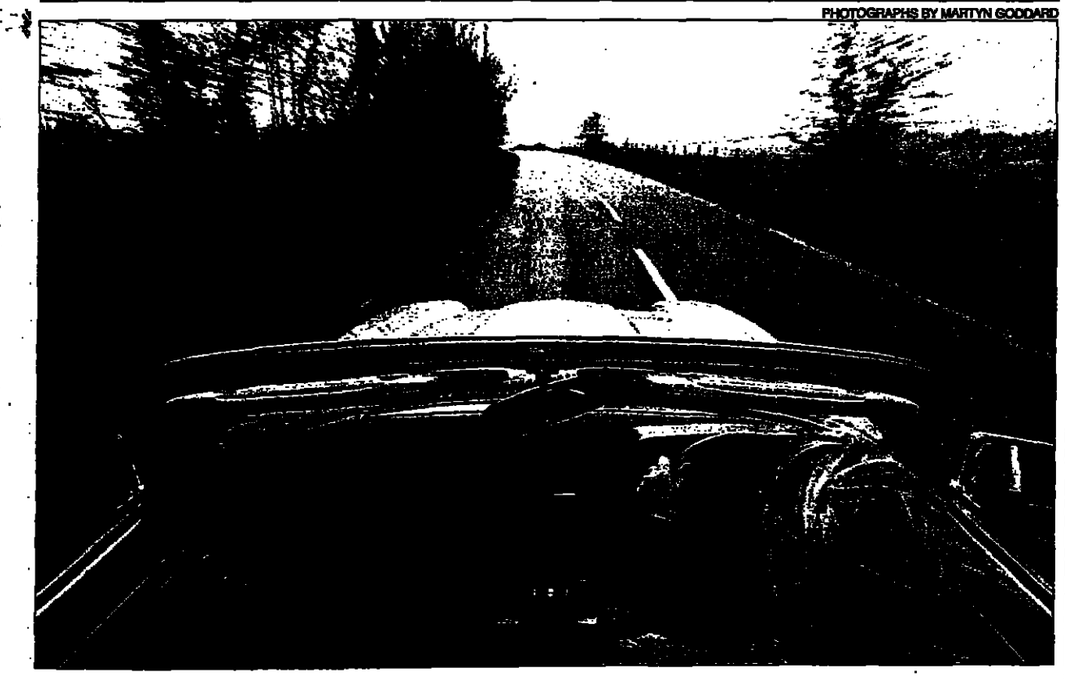
● *Harvey Nichols Food Hall, Knightsbridge, London SW1 (071-235 5000).*

● *The Pure Meat Company (mail-order telephone/fax 0345 581463). Specialists in conservation-grade meats.*

● *The Real Meat Company, Easthill Farm, Heytesbury, Warminster, Wilts (0985 40501).*

● *Upper Eldon Farm, King's Somborne, Hants, where Sutherland's wild boar sausages, made from Wild Blue, are also sold. Personal callers only; please phone first on 0794 368158.*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARTYN GODDARD



Lynne Truss at the wheel of the sporty Jaguar XJS Coupé

> 'I was cruising at 40mph — just getting it out of the garage'

Continued from page 1

despite the fact that the floor fell out long ago and it is parked permanently outside the house.

Sometimes television tells things you really didn't want to know. In his brilliantly terrifying series *Signs of the Times*, Barker exposed the extraordinary significance of home furnishings in people's lives (remember the Scottish couple who had to go out all the time because they hated the carpet?), and made you see everyday things differently. In fact, after watching all five parts of *Signs of the Times* it was impossible to look around one's living-room without screaming. Now, with *From A to B*, Barker is achieving the same trick with cars. "Hello, car", I chirruped yesterday to mine. *And I caught myself at it.*

So what happens if you put the wrong person (me) in the wrong car (the Jaguar)? Does the personality change? Does a happily invisible ghost-in-the-machine type of motorist turn into Edina from *Absolutely Fabulous* ("Hello? Hello? Over here?") if you put her in a Jaguar XJS Coupé? Certainly she can't prattle the words, "It's not quite a Jag-u-ar" any more, which is a blessing.

Well, as a success, it was partial. After the tussle with the handbrake ("It won't come off!"), things were obviously bound to improve. The newfound mobility meant I no longer suffered visions of returning the car after the weekend having only sat stationary in it, stroking the wheel and murmuring a wistful, "Poop poop", like Toad in prison.

Once able to engage the wheels and reverse on to the road, the Jag was inevitably a whole different motoring experience. I was cruising at 40mph in no time. And that was just getting it out of the garage.

"Attention" is the word that comes up repeatedly in *From A to B*. Drivers want attention, apparently — women in fast cars expect sexual attention from male drivers, and they virtually demand furious envy from other women. I wasn't so sure about this. Did I really want anyone to see me shuddering with cold, eyeliner streaked by wind, hair either lashing my face or stuffed down the back of my jacket, and all in the cause of vanity? I thought not. So I mouthed the words, "Not mine" to anyone who seemed on the verge of being impressed or irritated by the glorious, purring ice-blue motor. As for being transported by notions of grandeur, I kept my feet on the ground by remembering the joke about the vicar whose sex education lecture gets mixed up in his diary with "sailing". If anyone asked me about driving a Jag, I could say (like the confused vicar) that I did it once but my hat blew off. As for the driving, well, you can't compare it with an ancient Peugeot 205, because there's nowhere to put your chips. On the plus side, however, it glides over hills that my Peugeot groans at; its automatic hood goes up and down at the flick of a switch; the tiny back seat will accommodate an adult friend if she is 5ft 4in and wedges herself sideways.

And, um, the no-nob oak-veneered glove compartment, when in desperation you finally prise it open with a claw-head hammer, turns out not to be a glove compartment at all, but a cunningly concealed air-bag for the passenger.

I was joking about the hammer. The worst thing about this Jag was that at £45,000 it was worth considerably more than I was, and I was terrified of hurting it. How does anyone ever get used to that? As I eased it into my too-small garage with my eyes closed, I kept recollecting the advertising slogan for engagement rings. "How else can a month's salary last a lifetime?", and thinking, "How else can a year's executive salary, before tax, be written off in two seconds?" In the night, I would get up and check the car ("Still all right?"), as though it were a new baby.

And what of the adoring public? The main thing I noticed as I drove the car around Brighton in my cowgirl outfit (well, they said dress *up*) was that pedestrians laughed, sometimes quite loudly, and that other motorists ignored me, especially when I needed them to let me out of a side turning. I tried being assertive when people looked envious ("Eat dirt, turkeys") but my heart wasn't in it.

And when, finally, two small boys on bicycles hovered nearby while I had a photo taken, I was uncertain whether they were overwhelmed by the swanky motor or just thinking of pinching the photographer's mobile phone lying temptingly on the back seat.

Motoring, pages 19-21

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Sunday 20 March 11.30 am NB: starting time — GREIG TRIO. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Beethoven: Piano Trio in G major Op.1 No.2; Ravel: Trio in A minor (1914). £5 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice

Sunday 20 March 4.00 pm NB: starting time — ROSA TORRES PARDO piano. Spanish Arts Festival. Schubert: 3 Impromptus D946; Granados: El amor y la muerte from Goyescas; Mompou: Musica Callada; Stravinsky: 3 movements from Petrushka. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 Sponsored by Alfred Dunhill

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Thursday 24 March 7.30 pm — VERDEHR TRIO violin, clarinet, piano. Wagner/Rosenthal: Dance Suite; Alexander Arutiunian: Suite (1992) (London premiere); William Bolcom: Trio (1992) (world premiere); Peter Schickele: Dream Tracks (1992) (London premiere); Peter Dickinson: American Trio. £11, £9, £7, £5 Park Lane Group

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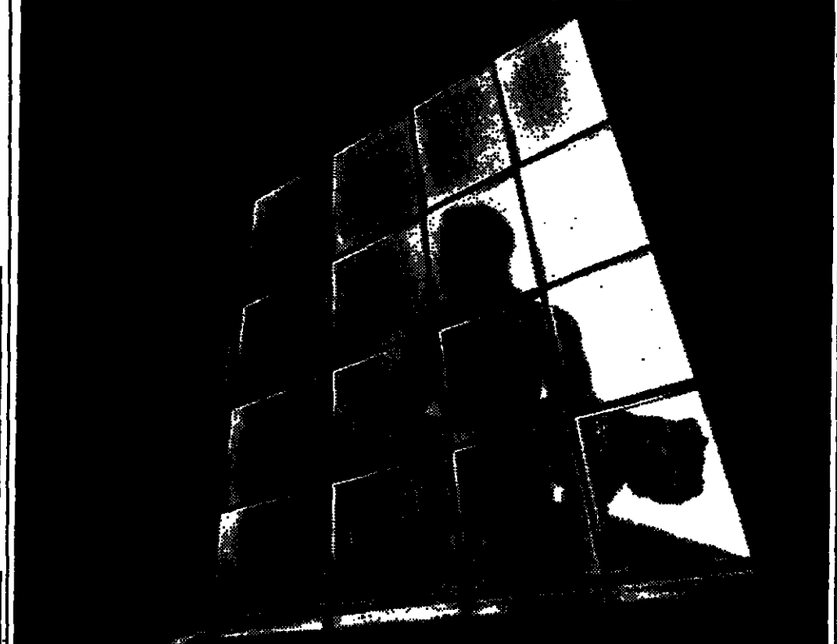
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ENTERTAINMENTS ALSO APPEARS ON PAGE 8

Watch out, Spielberg, the Welsh are in town

The British are coming! Or rather, not. Colin Welland's fatuous boast, as he clutched his Oscar for *Chariots of Fire*, seems unlikely to be echoed widely in Los Angeles on Monday. Never mind. I give you this battle-cry instead. The Welsh are coming!

Yes, we are talking of *Hedd Wyn*. The good news about a movie in Welsh is that it can be nominated as Best Foreign-Language Film. The bad news is that it does great trade in Llandrindod Wells, but never gets released in some other important film-going regions. America, for example.

Hedd Wyn faces stiff opposition on Monday, especially from *Farewell My Concubine*: just the sort of portentous yawn that usually wins the foreign-language Oscar. But don't underestimate the Welsh achievement, or their chances.

Their film tells the true-life story of the young Welsh poet Ellis Evans who, in an attempt to win the Chair at the Eisteddfod, adopted the bardic name "Hedd Wyn". Curious choice, but at least he didn't call himself Bienvenida. He did win his Chair, in 1917. Unfortunately by then he had already been killed in Flanders.

What makes the film remarkable is its budget: just £750,000. For that, in Hollywood, you could probably afford to hire Meryl Streep's hairdresser for an hour. Yet *Hedd Wyn* manages to encompass not only the "how green was my valley" stuff, but the corpse-strewn fields of Ypres as well.

In short, it is a miracle achieved on a shoestring. Thus it chimes neatly with the launch this week of a pressure-group that is demanding £220 million worth of "tax breaks" in order to "revitalise" the British film industry. All the usual luvvies were rounded up for the occasion, and their comments were priceless. Michael Caine declared that successive British governments have "destroyed us with their tax laws". He looked well, despite his poverty. And David Puttnam blamed the media for not trumpeting the brilliance of British films loudly enough.

Nobody, funnily enough, suggested that British film directors, producers and actors bore any blame for what has happened to their own industry. And as they boarded their Concordes for America, I expect that some of these luminaries were still fuming at their unsupportive mother-country, which won't give them the tax breaks that they feel they deserve.

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

Two new arty journals have been unveiled. This is good news for arty journalists. One is *Perspectives*, the architecture magazine backed by the Prince of Wales. That in itself says something rather sad about the constraints of modern royalty.

Let me explain. The Prince's ancestors expressed their architectural desires by building real castles. When George IV had ideas, Brighton trembled. When Prince Albert wanted to dabble in the building trade the result was Kensington. But our Prince is mostly reduced to expressing himself not in bricks and mortar (or perhaps he favours wattle and daub) but in articles and speeches. And as every journalist knows, even the most regal articles have a life expectancy somewhat shorter than the average castle's.

The other new magazine is an even more troubling sign of the times. Called *Deadpan*, it is to be written by alternative comedians. People constantly tell me that alternative comedy is "the rock music of the Nineties". But that doesn't make it any funnier.

On this matter, though, the population divides sharply according to age. You know you are old when, attending an alternative comedy show, you blurt out "but that joke didn't have a punchline!". Whereupon your neighbour replies, with withering scorn, "that's the *whole point*".

So perhaps an entire magazine of unfunny comedy will be a raging success. After all, something has to replace *Punch*. Nevertheless, if the Prince is thinking about starting any more mags he could do worse than publish an "alternative to alternative comedy". It could begin by reprinting all the Goons scripts. Indeed, the Prince could issue cassettes of himself reading them in funny voices. He would make a fortune. Then he could build his castle.

What is a visit to the theatre worth? Let me simplify that question. Is 23 minutes of Samuel Beckett, even performed by the pale and intense Fiona Shaw, worth £4 a ticket? This is the asking-price at the Garrick Theatre in London, where Deborah Warner's production of *Footfalls* has been playing twice-nightly this week.

I think it is pretty good value. At 17p per minute, it compares very favourably with a mid-price stalls ticket to see Trevor Nunn's new production of *Katya Kabanova* at Covent Garden (130 minutes, £73; 56p per minute). Going to an average-length film is much cheaper (100 minutes, £7: 7p per minute), but then you are not seeing a performance created before your eyes.

For value-for-money *live* entertainment, there is still little to beat a day watching cricket played between the second XIs of two Minor Counties (six hours, £2 or so; 0.5p per minute), though there is always the possibility of a complete washout, in which case the price per minute does unfortunately become infinitely large.

Footfalls certainly represents a better price per minute than a grandstand seat for a Premier League football match. Of course, there is the objection that you will emerge from a Beckett play feeling utterly bewildered by what you have just seen. But then, you can sometimes feel like that after watching Arsenal.

Music in living colour

Michael Church meets Mario Cavalli, whose imaginative technique of treating live-action footage with a computer paintbox has produced a new form of animation

TIM GOFFE



Cavorting tots and randy adolescents in a public pool; a boot sale with policemen sniffing around; well-heeled chat in the anteroom to a ballet class: "Post Office — part of everyday life". If you missed these oblique little television ads in January, they will soon be on again. But if you did catch them, you may have been struck by something odd: the figures in the pool are painted in rough daubs, and the boot salesmen are very obviously *drawn*, yet they move with animal fluidity. They have none of the routine jerkiness of "animation".

They *are* animation films, but they are not. The daubs were placed by hand, with an electronic brush, on film which had been conventionally shot and then electronically voided of colour. The process is dizzily high-tech, but the effect is down-home low-tech: paintings which move.

Imitators are doubtless busily at work, but for the time being this technique is still the preserve of its unassuming but tenacious Italian-Welsh inventor, Mario Cavalli. He first unveiled it two years ago with an 11-minute pastorale called *Soho Square*, in which he subjected the comings and goings, amours and quarrels of a central-London oasis to the transforming magic of his Quantel computer paintbox.

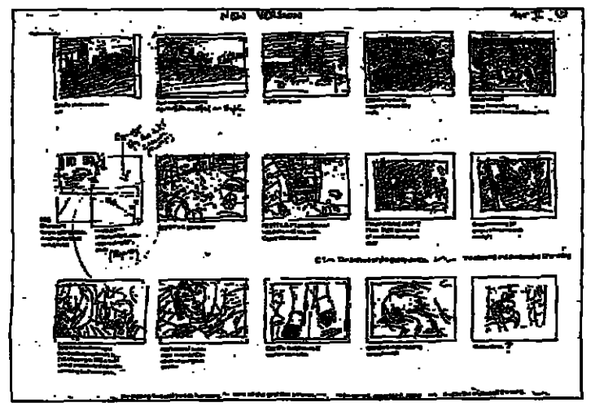
And indeed, the gods whom this film-maker worships are those of the brush, not the lens — the German Expressionists, Mark Rothko, and Rothko's mentor, Milton Avery. *Soho Square* was effectively born out of Avery's painting "The Conversation", a print of which had hung on Cavalli's wall for years. "Two women gossiping, but with everything superfluous — every facial detail — ruthlessly stripped away, so that all you get is body language," he says. "It expresses itself purely in terms of composition and colour. I realised that its ratio was identical to that of the television screen. I thought, let's explore this."

His explorations began with the aid of a camcorder, on which he shot away for hours like a tourist. "I used it as a sketchbook. Stories began to emerge, very slight, quite banal." From 40 of these he compiled a storyboard, then summoned a choreographer, Jane Turner, and a painter, Ashley Potter, who prepared background sketches to reflect moods and times of day. Actors and dancers were rehearsed in the storyboard's movements, then put into baggy costumes and filmed. The footage was deconstructed, then reconstructed.

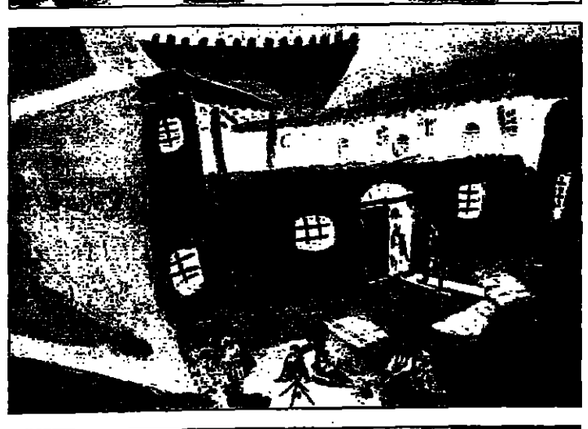
The success of *Soho Square* sowed seeds, the first of which germinated in the mind of Post Office advertiser Tim Mellors. Cavalli's method was like Mike Leigh's, letting something very ordinary unfold without a script — and only God directing — then elaborating and refining it. "I'd passed through Soho Square every day for years, but I'd never really *looked* at it," Mellors says.

Deutsche Grammophon, meanwhile, had been trying to get Anne-Sophie Mutter to collaborate with Cavalli on a promotional film for her recording of themes from *Carmen*. The violinist, overcome by a sudden bout of camera-shyness, aborted the project.

Then, right on cue, Channel 4 Wales came on the line. The producer of one of their forthcoming animation operas had fouled up, and would Cavalli like to fill the gap with a half-hour film of *Carmen*? A quick job, for very little money, but an irresistible offer nonetheless.









Cavalli called in the *Soho Square* team, cast the mezzo-soprano Jean Rigby as the voice of Carmen, and an Argentinian flamenco dancer called Carmela Romero, whom one of his spies had discovered in a Clapham tapas bar, as his star. While Rigby recorded, Romero danced, to provide visual inspiration: a nice touch, which also helped Romero to lip-synch.

I dropped in on the shoot towards the end of Act I, at the point where the girls troop back to the tobacco factory after their siesta. Against a background of Mediterranean blue — not a fleck of any other colour on floor, walls, or ceiling — six dancers clothed in a single vast white dress (a recycled parachute) were floating like an animated cloud across the studio. While the cameraman did his job, Cavalli printed out stills for a visual log of the proceedings.

In contrast to their sploshy forebears in *Soho Square*, these actors were made up so that their features were sharply delineated. Before redrawing the actors at the editing stage, he was first drawing *on* them.



Mario Cavalli (top) at work in the studio with his dancers, and storyboard (above left) and stills from his animation of *Carmen*

In the editing room a few weeks later, the strengths of the process are readily apparent. Cavalli treats his "live action" footage like raw material, and plays with its images as though they really are drawings.

While putting the finishing touches to this job, he is simultaneously embarking on another uncharted sea. Having failed with Mutter, Deutsche Grammophon's next idea was to team Cavalli with Pierre Boulez, for a short film based on Ravel's *Bolero*, to promote Boulez's project of recording the greatest works of the century.

But Boulez too proved camera-shy: he would not even let Cavalli film his hands conducting. This is a pity, as he had an interesting plan. He was not going to *film* them at all: he was going to record their movements on computer by wiring them up with magnetic stickers. He then planned to work the results into a semi-abstract film.

He has now come up with a solution involving dancers, who will be similarly wired at their hands, feet, knees, elbows, and shoulders. "The beauty of this," he says, "is that I can record human movement, and then attribute it to any model I choose to construct within the computer."

He regards Ravel's piece as modern before its time, an exercise in instrumentation whose dissonances Boulez brings out with particular force. "I've taken it as a challenge to find the visual equivalent. I want to move forms that are textures and colours, rather than figures, with the timing of the dancers."

In a couple of months' time we shall encounter the result of this game, on screens in record shops. Meanwhile, those in the vicinity of the National Museum of Wales can see some of the secrets of Cavalli's *Carmen* laid out in an exhibition. "Operavox: the animated operas" is devoted not only to Cavalli's piece, but also to the other five (including two from Russia) in the S4C series, which starts transmitting in Wales at Easter. Those of us who live east of the border will have to wait until the autumn, when they will be shown on BBC2.

● Operavox: the animated operas *at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff (0222 397951). from Tuesday until July.*

With death at their fingertips

THEATRE

The Eagle Has Two Heads
Lilian Baylis

Jean Cocteau's *L'Aigle à deux têtes* is a high-faluting romantic melodrama that falutes higher than most examples of the genre. A queen, widowed at her husband's coronation, remains picturesquely sorrowful for the next ten years, building fabulous castles but hiding her face from the common view. Yet sorrow has not restricted her wardrobe, for only Disney could have bettered her first appearance in the frothy white gown and dinky little crown with red bobbles.

Still, she is totally in love with easeful death — but it must be easeful, mind. In a medallion around her throat she carries a painless slow-acting poison: you carry on talking just as usual and then, bingo, you fall off your horse, dead.

Fate denies her this particular exit but the one that gets her is even more romantically melodramatic. Stabbed by her young lover, she retains enough strength to continue climbing the steps to the balcony, where she bows to her cavalry assembled below and falls backwards across the top step in an attitude that allows one arm, after some adjustment, to stretch easefully out.

The young man, a poet, of course, and dying, natch, crawls up the steps so that their fingertips just touch before the flames of life blow out.

This is all pretty ethereal stuff. But it does appeal to young actors who cannot always be acting *Don Carlos* and miss the rapture of yesterday's drama. Curiously, the only other production of this play that I have seen was also staged by a company assembled by the actor playing Stanislas, the poet who signs his work Azrael, angel of death, and becomes fatally entangled with the queen's fingertips.

Stash Kirkbride sounds as if he is a good verse-speaker, able to put a catch in his voice to show his heart is touched, and half-closing his eyes when passion is really strong. He has a good presence, even when standing still, which augurs well.

Lisa Harrow plays the restless queen. Cocteau's heroine but a fairly thankless part if the actress cannot bring herself, or is not encouraged, to go over the top into yearning, dreaming, self-loving posturing.

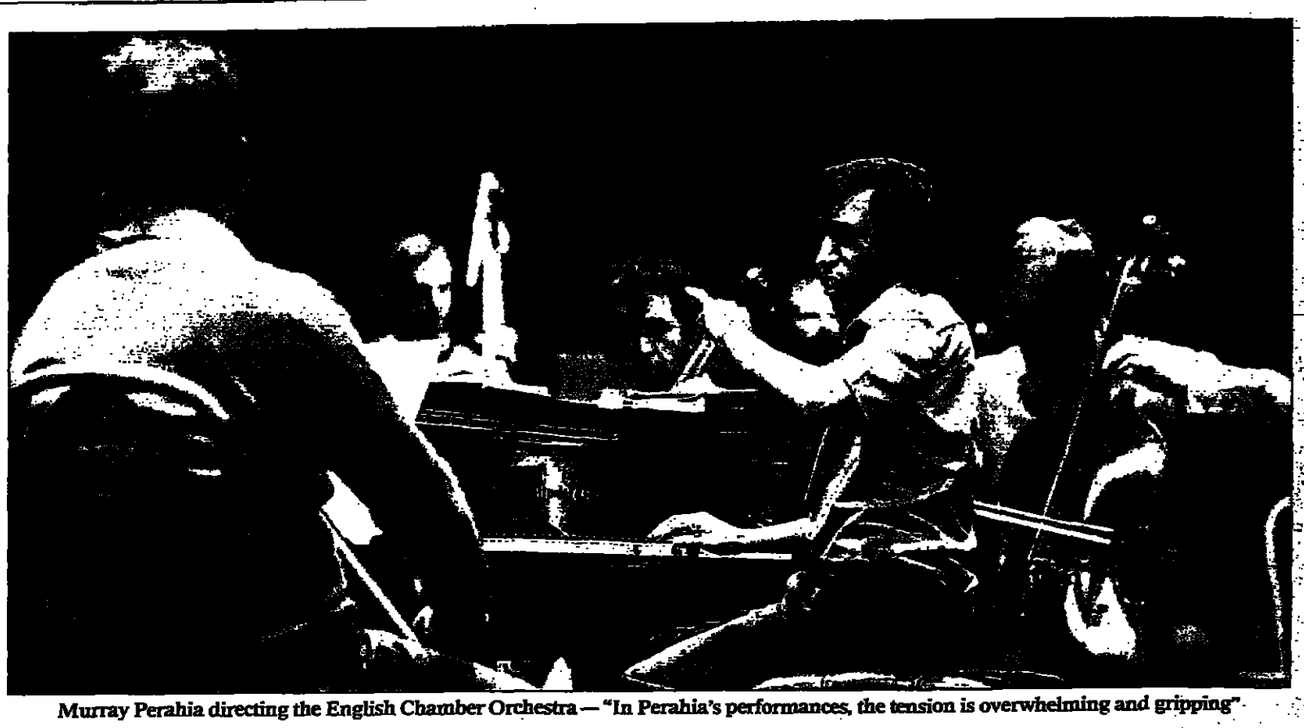
We should be grateful to Susannah York that, although she does allow her leading pair to move about, she often keeps them quite still, save for a twitching hand or an impatient pull at a medallion. William Boyde and Jules Melvin play scheming members of the court, and Brian Spink, his voice like steel dipped in honey, is an admirable chief of police.

"Stanislas, you're crying!" "Yes, but do not dry these tears." They don't write curtain lines like that any more.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Richard Morrison introduces this month's CD Direct choice, the American pianist Murray Perahia

Balancing the scales



Murray Perahia directing the English Chamber Orchestra — "In Perahia's performances, the tension is overwhelming and gripping"

Piano-playing and modern living have this in common: what was once a source of marvel quickly becomes a commonplace. The colour television is transformed in a few years from awe-inspiring luxury into essential household item. And the kind of fleet-fingered musical virtuosity that compelled the astonishment of our grandparents is now taken for granted. Nobody aspiring to a concert career can now be anything except technically brilliant.

The charge most often made against modern pianists, however, is that genuine feeling has been sacrificed on the altar of technical perfection. Off-the-peg artifice has replaced heart-felt interpretation: precision engineering has been placed above the questing spirit.

Very few modern pianists have been able to sort out this dilemma satisfactorily. And only one — the 46-year-old American, Murray Perahia — has come up with an answer that not only resolves the tension between technique and feeling, but actually draws strength from it.

In Perahia's performances, this tension is overwhelming and gripping. It is a tension between cool analysis and hot-blooded instinct: between the sanguine clarity of his conceptions, and the pent-up energy, almost erotic in its urgency, of the fast passages.

THE TIMES



CD DIRECT

It is also a tension between the sheer delight of pushing the fingers ever faster, and the courage just to "stand and stare" from time to time. Perahia, in fact, manages to hold in equilibrium the classical concern with making each strand of the music as clear-cut as a diamond, and the romantic desire to produce textures of mysterious, unfathomable beauty. Plenty of other pianists veer magnificently one way or the other, but Perahia regularly performs the balancing-trick.

Add to this one other supreme quality. Give him a single phrase — a little musical idea that Beethoven might produce a dozen times in the course of a concerto movement — and Perahia will transform it as if by alchemy into a greeting, a question, an exclamation or a supplication, simply by colouring it or articulating it slightly differently. Great actors can find a similar variety of meanings in a single line of Shakespeare, of course, but one rarely hears such subtle proof that music is a language susceptible to conversational nuance.

There is no false bombast or inflated sentiment in a Perahia performance. Indeed, the first impression you get is of a craftsman stripping his material down to its lean essentials before beginning to fashion his design. But this sparseness is deceptive. In a typical Perahia interpretation, something — perhaps one of Beethoven's wilder changes of key, or a particularly sombre passage of chords in the Brahms quartet — will seem to act as a psychological trigger, releasing all kinds of neuroses into the music. Or the reverse will happen: a tense and whippy interpretation — such as he gives to the opening movement of Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto, for instance — will suddenly be relaxed into tranquillity.

One other quality of this remarkable pianist ought to be mentioned, because it is particularly evident on two of the recordings offered here. That is Perahia's consummate skill in establishing a rapport with other musicians. To hear him in recital with a kindred spirit (I recall a marvellous duo-recital with the pianist Radu Lupu a few years ago, and his recording of Schumann's *Dichterliebe* with Sir Peter Pears is also justly renowned) is to hear what seems like the world's wisest and wittiest dialogue translated into music.

Remarkably, Perahia can extend this empathy not only to other soloists but to whole orchestras. Note, on our chosen recordings, how superbly the woodwind principals of the Concertgebouw Orchestra respond to his lead in the Beethoven concertos; or how, directing from the keyboard, he produces the subtlest of interplay with the English Chamber Orchestra in the Mozart concertos.

Though a New Yorker by birth and a thoroughly international artist by trade, Perahia has special links with Britain. Winning the Leeds Piano Competition in 1972 launched his career, and he has a long association with the Aldeburgh Festival. In recent years, a hand injury has forced him to withdraw from performing. Happily, he recently made his return to the British concert platform.

I have just played, perhaps for the fifth time this evening, his exquisite recording of Schubert's A flat Impromptu, D899. It is a miniature miracle of performance, and seems to sum up his phenomenal gifts: dancing flames reflected in flawless crystal.

● TO PURCHASE any of these top-price Sony CDs of Murray Perahia at the specially reduced Times price, simply complete the coupon (below left). If you book the 3-CD set of Beethoven Piano Concertos (available here at the unbeatable price of £19.99) or any other two of the CDs on offer, you can also receive an extra CD absolutely free.

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One of the greatest chamber works ever composed; the scope of the music is almost symphonic.

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Love, betrayal and De Niro shouting

NEW VIDEOS

The best of the week's releases for home viewing

■ THE FIREMEN'S BALL
Tartan, 15, 1967
MILOS Forman's last Czech feature before he emigrated to America is a wonderfully punchy comedy that views society from the vantage point of a chaotic firemen's ball. Czechoslovakia's fire force almost came out on strike, until they were told that their colleagues' acts of theft, greed and stupidity were not to be taken literally.

■ THE LIE
Tartan, 18, 1992
NATALIE Baye beams her trademark smile. She is pregnant. Then the thunderbolt comes: she tests positive for HIV. Trying to trace the infection's source, she uncovers her partner's secret life. Characters suffer an unrealistic number of emotional crises, but the actors shoulder the burden well, and first-time director François Margolin, trained in documentary and journalism, gives the tale a hard edge.

■ THE MAGIC BOX
Warner, U, 1951
SCENES from the sad life of William Friese-Greene, one of Britain's cinema pioneers. The film industry's official contribution to the 1951 Festival of Britain makes hay with historical facts, but comes pleasurably stacked with every British actor of note, from Robert Donat and Laurence Olivier to Sid James.

■ MISTRESS
20:20 Vision, 15, 1992
WOULD you want to produce a film called *The Darkness and the Light* about a painter who commits suicide? Washed-up executive Martin Landau does, although by the time the low-budget financiers are through, not much is left of Robert Wuhl's original concept. A slender yarn, maybe, but actor-turned-director Barry Primus mounts this Hollywood satire with knowing wit. Enjoyable cameos from the likes of Robert De Niro and Eli Wallach.

■ SIMPLE MEN
Tartan, 15, 1992
TWO wildly dissimilar brothers — one studious, one freaky — embark on a search for their activist father. Hal Hartley's third full-length feature, with Robert Burke and William Sage, is full of his patented brand of oddball philosophising and brusque action. The technical finesse is considerable, although you cannot help feeling the cult director has got stuck in his own rut.

■ SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE
20:20 Vision, PG, 1993
OVER Christmas, Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks edge towards each other's arms from opposite sides of the United States. Nora Ephron's romantic comedy is smartly observed and full of tart lines, but the characters are hard to take to heart.

■ THEOREM
Connoisseur, 15, 1968
PASOLINI set intellectual tongues wagging in 1968 with this provocative, crisply beautiful allegory about Terence Stamp arriving from nowhere to disrupt and seduce a well-heeled Milanese family. Interpretions, please, on a postcard. With Silvano Mangano, Massimo Girotti, Anne Wiazemsky.

■ THIS BOY'S LIFE
Warner, 15, 1993
"SHUT your goddamn pie hole!" Robert De Niro yells at his rebellious stepson, marooned in a mid-1950s hell called Concrete, Washington State. Ultimately De Niro yells too much, though Michael Caton-Jones's version of the Tobias Wolff memoir deals nicely enough with adolescent pains. Ellen Barkin's doormat of a mother proves aggravating, but Leonardo DiCaprio, as Wolff's younger self, is remarkably good.

GEOFF BROWN



Natalie Baye and Didier Sandre in Margolin's Aids drama, *The Lie*

Free gifts for new and existing members – and the chance to be there when the stars come out for theatreland's biggest night

Have London in your pocket

THE TIMES THE THEATRE CLUB

BEING a member of the Theatre Club costs £12.50 per year and entitles you to buy two tickets for any Club offer. Every week our special offers give you the chance to save money at the box office, meet the cast and directors of productions all over the country, and occasionally get away from it all on exclusive Theatre Club weekends, taking in the best shows. If you had joined the Theatre Club when it started in October 1992, you could already have saved more than £1,300 on having a good time.

Furthermore, if you join the club, or renew your membership, before April 5 you will receive a complimentary copy of the **Beefeater Gin 2-Day Guide to London**, worth £7.99. Written by Stephen Bayley, a regular writer on design and popular culture in *The Times*, the guide does what it says, providing a wealth of information — and well-informed comment — about the very best the city has to offer the short-break visitor, from what to see to where to shop and eat, and why. Londoners themselves could learn a lot from it!

TAKE YOUR SEATS FOR THE OLIVIER AWARDS

London Palladium
April 17
CLUB members are invited to join the star-studded audience at this year's Laurence Olivier Awards ceremony. Presented by the Society of London Theatre in association with American Express, Britain's most prestigious theatre awards are also being supported by *The Times* this year, for the first time.

Now in their 18th year, the Olivier Awards recognise distinction in theatre, opera and dance and also encourage young talent and creative new work. The awards are unique in being judged not by critics but by members of the public alongside independent professionals. Indeed, a number of Theatre Club members have been invited to join the panel for next year's awards.

There are 24 categories, including the BBC Award for Best Play and the American Express Award for Best Musical. The award for best musical this year is a fight between the two "Hollywood" musicals, *Sunset Boulevard* and the critically acclaimed *City of Angels*, while the Best Play category is a four-cornered contest between Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* and three American plays — David Mamet's *Oleanna*, Tony Kushner's *Perestroika* and Arthur Miller's *The Last Yankee*.

The awards ceremony will also include performances of songs from a number of West End shows, including *Grease*, *Sunset Boulevard* and *Piaf*.



Up for an Olivier, Patti LuPone and Kevin Anderson trip the light fantastic in the musical *Sunset Boulevard*

Tickets for Theatre Club members are £35 or £30 and include a free glass of celebratory champagne. To book please telephone 071-497 9977. If you want to stay in London overnight after the awards ceremony Centre Stage is offering club members special rates ranging from £25 to £49 per person sharing (£35 to £80 single) at a variety of West End hotels. For reservations call Freephone 0800 335588

LONDON
Playhouse
March 27
● WANT to be in at the beginning of a potential West End hit? Ray Cooney, producer of successes such as *It Runs in the Family* and *Run For Your Wife*, has invited members to a rehearsed reading of his recently finished play *Funny Money*. Afterwards, members can take part in a discussion with the author and cast over a glass of wine. Tickets just £5. Tel 071-839 4401

HULL
Hull Truck Theatre
April 18-21
● AFTER extensive refurbishment and the addition of 100 seats, the theatre reopens on April 11 with *Passion Killers*, a bitter-sweet comedy about temptation and passion by John Godber whose last play, *April in Paris*, is among the nominations for the Olivier Award for Best Comedy. Two £6.95 tickets for the price of one, and a free glass of sangria. Tel 0482 23638

New Theatre
April 5
● LINDA Lusardi stars in *When Did You Last See Your Trousers?*, a farce by Ray Galton and John Antrobus. Buy £9.50 tickets for £4.50. Tel 0482 226655

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERS

KIRKCALDY
Adam Smith Theatre
April 12-13
● SEE the dramatisation of *The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck's classic story of the Depression, for £4 (normally £6.50). Tel 0592 260498

LIVERPOOL
Everyman Theatre
March 22-April 9
● KABOODLE Productions return to the Everyman with their award-winning production of Arthur Miller's classic story of love and betrayal, *A View From The Bridge*. Buy four tickets for the price of three (tickets normally £5-£8). Tel 051-709 4776

Playhouse Theatre
March 28
● SEE John Alderton, Kate O'Mara, Belinda Lang and John Fortune in Peter Hall's production of Frederick Lonsdale's stylish comedy *On Approval*. Tickets £9 (normally £12). Tel 051-709 8363

NOTTINGHAM
Playhouse
March 28-April 14
● JOSIE Lawrence stars as Eliza Doolittle in Shaw's masterpiece, *Pygmalion*. Tickets £8.75 and £7.75 (normally £11 and £9.50) for any Monday to Thursday performance. Tel 0602 419419

SALISBURY
Playhouse Theatre
March 28-31
● A chilling thriller full of tricks, twists and red herrings, *Wait Until Dark* tells the story of a blind woman who becomes the target for a trio of conmen. Tickets £7 (normally £10.50). Tel 0722 320333

To Join the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, PO Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN or telephone 0206 41662 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general enquiries please telephone 071-387 9673. **To Book** for any of this week's special offers telephone the listed number during normal office hours.

RECORDINGS: Adams blends minimalism with Romantic harmonies, plus the latest jazz and pop releases

Stephen Pettitt

■ **ADAMS**
Harmonielehre, etc.
CBSO/Rattle
EMI CDC 5 55051 2★★
I USED to think that second-generation minimalists, if that is how John Adams can be categorised, were not very different from their forebears. They still basically countered intellectualism with lots of pretty patterns. But in *Harmonielehre* (1985), Adams mixes his brand of minimalism — in any case harmonically and rhythmically more interesting than that of Glass or Reich — with luscious, late-Romantic tunes and harmonies, the sort that could have been composed 80 years ago. But, for my money, the blend is not always as potent as intended, and the integration of the two styles seems more carefully considered in the third movement — sad though it is that impersonal patterns eventually win the day — than in the first. The deeply felt and thoroughly Mahlerian second movement, "The Anfortas Wound", is the most impressive, disdaining minimalist concepts altogether. Without the machine whirling, its rhythms sometimes seem prosaic, but it builds to a frightening expressionistic climax.

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's playing under Simon Rattle is warm and keen-edged here, while in the foxtrot "The Chairman Dances" and the two fanfares, "Tromba Lontana" and the ubiquitous and flashy "Short Ride in a Fast Machine", it exudes an appositely extrovert brilliance.

☐ **HOLLOWAY**
Concerto No 2 for Orchestra
BBCSO/Knussen
NMC D105M★★★
ROBIN Holloway's *Concerto No 2 for Orchestra* (1979) is both attention-grabbing and substantial, arguably the composer's best piece thus far. Its inspiration comes from the buzzing sounds of African city life, from nostalgic recollections of familiar tunes, indeed from the whole world. Constantly in flux, yet certain of its own direction, this is a piece that really does go somewhere. It is given a tremendous recording on this mid-price, mid-length disc (34 minutes or so) by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Oliver Knussen.

☐ **SWAYNE**
Cry
BBC Singers/Poole
NMC D016★★
GILES Swayne, who has made his home in Ghana, caused a stir with this gigantic work, scored for 28 electronically treated solo voices and completed in 1979. With the benefit of hindsight, it is easy to understand why. Before world music was a glimmer in the eyes of the marketing men, Swayne rejected the elitist intellectualism of the western mainstream. *Cry*, heavily influenced by the sounds and aesthetics of African music and based on the creation myth, was the major fruit of his radical rethinking of language and manner.

Excellent singing from the BBC Singers under John Poole.



Simon Rattle (left) and John Adams: the Birmingham orchestra's playing "exudes an appositely extrovert brilliance"

John Higgins

■ **GOLDSCHMIDT**
Der gewaltige Hahnrei.
Alexander/Wörle/Kraus/Deutsches Symphonie Orchestra/Zagrosek.
Decca 440 850-2
(2 CDs)★★
BERTHOLD Goldschmidt's *Der gewaltige Hahnrei* (*The Magnificent Cuckold*) remained unplayed and forgotten for 60 years after its Mannheim premiere in 1932. Carl Ebert had planned a production for Berlin in 1933, but the rise of the Nazi party saw to that. So *Hahnrei* comes with the best possible credentials for inclusion in Decca's bold and enterprising series "Entartete Musik" (Degenerate Music) of works banned under the Third Reich.

Goldschmidt's *Cuckold* showed its horns again in a concert performance at Berlin's Philharmonie in December 1992, with the composer, just approaching 90, present. Decca's recording derives from that evening and much of its brilliance comes from the playing of the German Symphony Orchestra under the punchy direction of Lothar Zagrosek. Goldschmidt makes most of his comments in the pit and he is wonderfully well served there.

He drew his libretto from a play, *Le Cocu magnifique* by Crommelynck, a precursor of Ionesco in the Theatre of the Absurd. Jealousy is its subject.



Alexander: ethereal grace

Bruno is out to prove his delectable wife Stella unfaithful by means fair, foul or farcical. Peggy Ashcroft was Stella when the play came to London in the early 1930s.

In the opera, Goldschmidt wraps Stella in lyrical, almost Straussian string tones and Roberta Alexander sings her with ethereal grace. Robert Wörle's crisp and excellently articulated tenor is well chosen for Bruno, who at times appears to be barking mad and ends Othello-like, consumed by his fears. There is a surface zaniness which suggests Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges* but below the feelings are harsher and more Germanic. A staging of *Hahnrei*, directed by Harry Kupfer, is scheduled for Berlin in September at the Komische Oper, where once Felsenstein mounted an extraordinary production of *Oranges*. In the meantime Decca's recording is recommended to all those ready to step outside the conventional repertoire.

Barry Millington

■ **BRAHMS**
Violin Concerto; Double Concerto
Spivakov/Kniazev/Royal Philharmonic Orchestra/Temirkanov
RCA Victor Red Seal 09026 61696 2★★
WITH literally dozens of recordings of the Brahms Violin Concerto already available — everything from Kreisler to Kennedy — this new contender from the highly regarded Russian violinist (and sometimes conductor) Vladimir Spivakov is up against stiff competition. The opening orchestral tutti is vintage Temirkanov, unveiling the work with a sense of mystery and revelation.

Spivakov's reading is sensitive, thoughtful and formidably accurate, though at the crucial moments (the rapt meditation after the first movement's cadenza, for example) Spivakov fails to rise quite to the heights beckoned by Temirkanov. His cellist partner in a warm, committed performance of the Double is fellow Russian Alexander Kniazev.

☐ **NIELSEN**
Symphonies Nos 1 & 2; 3 & 4; 5 & 6
Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra/Järvi
DG 439 775/6/7-2★★★
☐ **NIELSEN**
Symphonies Nos 1 and 4
Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra/Rozhdestvensky
Chandos CHAN 9260★
THERE are currently half a dozen surveys of Nielsen's six symphonies in the catalogue, and Neeme Järvi's with the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, offered in a single package by Deutsche Grammophon last year, is among the best. Now DG has brought out the symphonies paired on separate discs, while Chandos offers the Fourth coupled with the youthful No 1 in G Minor from Gennady Rozhdestvensky and the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic.

The Fourth Symphony ("The Inextinguishable"), written in 1914-16, is markedly more antagonistic in tone than its predecessors: the tensions of war and perhaps also of marital strife were taking their toll. Järvi, in his recording coupling it with the Third ("Sinfonia espansiva"), brilliantly captures this undercurrent, as well as the vibrant exhilaration that is never far away. In an extraordinary finale, where two sets of timpani seemingly engage in mortal combat, while snarling brass looks on, his aggression is far more frightening than Rozhdestvensky's.

Rozhdestvensky is more successful in communicating the sense of wonder and impulsive dynamism of the younger Nielsen's G minor symphony. This was his first major foray into the world of symphonism, and what assurance and fertility of invention it shows. No wonder Nielsen retained an affection for it in later years.

The Third (1910-11) is also a more relaxed, generous-spirited work than its postwar successor, and Järvi and his players are alive to its open-hearted, folksy, "expansive" qualities.

The other two discs, especially that combining the mighty Fifth and the enigmatic Sixth, are also winners.



Järvi: vibrant Nielsen

Hilary Finch

■ **STRAVINSKY**
Oedipus Rex
Norman/Schreier/Saito Kinen Orchestra/Ozawa
Philips 438865-2★★★
FEW recordings are made of Stravinsky's monumental, incantatory "opera oratorio", *Oedipus Rex*, and fewer still match the work's own chill power. Here is one that does.

The German tenor, Peter Schreier, is the unhappy king himself, and one can almost hear the pain of those pierced eyes right from the start of his singing. At once arrogant and unnerving, the music lies as naturally in Schreier's voice as the firm lines of Creon's trumpet-clad music do for baritone Bryn Terfel. And then comes Jessye Norman as Jocasta, with pride, hauteur and tenderness all fused in one molten line.

Cocteau had wanted the narrator to speak in the language of the audience. Now the work itself has become something of an icon, we are stuck with his original French; but Georges Wilson's declamations speak directly and searingly to the listener. So does the singing of the Shinyukai Male Choir, who clearly understand a thing or two about the compact, hieratic type of singing Stravinsky had in mind. With Seiji Ozawa's Saito Kinen Orchestra in bright focus, they bring a distinctive profile to the epic impersonality of the work.

☐ **SONGS AND DANCES OF DEATH**
Hvorostovsky/Kirov Orchestra/Gergiev
Philips 438872-2★★
THE Kirov Orchestra and Dmitri Hvorostovsky have never been in better form and, with the young baritone responding, as ever, particularly well to the focus and discipline of recording, this is something of a treat. Death's own serenades, seductions and *danses macabres* are heard here not only from the pen of Mussorgsky, but from Rimsky-Korsakov, Borodin, Rachmaninov and Anton Rubenstein as well. Although Hvorostovsky occasionally needs to make a more energetic leap of the imagination, the commitment of Gergiev and his players makes this a revelatory programme.

☐ **MAHLER**
Das Lied von der Erde
Royal Concertgebouw/Solti/Lipovsek/Moser
Decca 440314-2★★★
MAHLER'S late and desperately passionate *Song of the Earth* deserves no less intensity than Sir Georg Solti brings to it. With orchestral playing of rare depth of colour and texture, and fine Mahler singers such as Thomas Moser and Marjana Lipovsek re-creating this vision of "a world drunk forever with love and life", this competes with Bernstein's recordings as one of the strongest versions available.

Clive Davis

■ **ANDY SHEPPARD**
Delivery Suite
Blue Note 8-28719-2★
BIG Co-Motion, the saxophonist's turbo-charged 12-piece band, hurtles through a 70-minute set at Ronnie Scott's, in a companion to last autumn's release, *Rhythm Method*. Sheppard's writing skills are stretched thin on this scale but he can at least rely on fiery soloing from trombonist Gary Valente and tenor player Jerry Underwood.

☐ **CHARLIE HADEN — QUARTET WEST**
Always Say Goodbye
Verve 521501-2 ★★★
"DIRECTED by Charlie Haden" runs the announcement on the sleeve notes, introducing another of the bass player's evocations of *film noir* and the shadowy street corners of Raymond Chandler's novels. More a work of montage than a conventional studio album, it re-creates the atmosphere of old Los Angeles by interweaving original compositions, standards and vintage jazz recordings.

Quartet West, for the uninitiated, is the decorous, low-key ensemble formed by Haden — a former Ornette Coleman sideman — after he settled on the west coast some years ago. Neither of the two principal soloists — altoist Ernie Watts and pianist Alan Broadbent — could be described as a star name, but that hardly matters when you are confronted by a group that plays with such poise on everything from Charlie Parker to sumptuous romantic ballads.

Chandler purists will complain that the explicit references to gumshoes do not extend much beyond a fragment of Max Steiner's music from *The Big Sleep* and a concluding line or two of dialogue by Bogart and Bacall. But there is much to savour in the ingenious splicing of Haden's group and the archive music, with Coleman Hawkins, Chet Baker and the 1940s pop singer Jo Stafford among the supporting cast.

Stephane Grappelli makes the most of two roles, performing with the quartet on "Où es-tu, Mon Amour?" before magically reappearing on a 1940s version of the same tune with Django Reinhardt. This is, by my count, the third time Haden has visited Chandler country since the quartet's debut. Though the time has come for him to move on to new ground, it has been a stimulating journey, first class all the way.



Haden: good in gumshoes

☐ **COUNT BASIE**
The Complete Atomic Basie
Roulette 8-28635-2★★★
UNDOUBTEDLY the post-war Basie orchestra's finest moment and one of the essential big-band albums. The original tracks are now augmented by three extra titles from the 1957 sessions: "Silks and Satins", "Sleepwalker's Serenade" and "The Late Late Show".

David Sinclair

■ **WHALE**
"Hobo Humpin Slobo Babe"
eastwest 4509-92412-2★★
WHALE are a group of Swedish media types who make records (well, actually, this is their first) while moonlighting from their day jobs as DJs and video producers. Singer Cia Berg now boasts the most famous teeth-brace in pop since making the video for this arresting song.

An enigmatic slogan which quickly turns into a riotous yobs' chorus, "Hobo Humpin Slobo Babe" is a concentrated burst of meaningless frivolity swept along by a modish hip-hop beat and Berg's ludicrously echoed vocals. The song sneaked into the Gallup Top 50 this week and deserves to go higher.

☐ **ECHOBELLY**
"Insomniac"
(Fauve/Rhythm King FAUV 1CD)★★
LED by Anglo-Asian former kickboxer Sonya Aurora-Madan and Swedish guitarist Glenn Johansson, Echobelly have been rather erroneously lumped in with the new English punk brigade. They actually sound a lot more sophisticated than that on "Insomniac", a song built on sturdy guitar foundations with a chorus that suddenly soars heavenwards with majestic grace.

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

■ **MORRISSEY**
"Vauxhall And I"
Parlophone 8 27797 2★★
AFTER the confident, pseudo-rockabilly strut of recent albums, this is a return to the Morrissey of old — wan, self-obsessed and condemned to spending rainy afternoons in deserted English tea gardens, wondering why the world hates him.

A recurring theme is that of friends. "I don't have too many . . ." he bemoans in "Now My Heart Is Full", the syllables of the lyric stretched like a long, sad sigh over the gently undulating chords sequence. Even a genuinely pretty tune like "I Am Hated For Loving" seems burdened with the weariness of it all.

Things perk up on the uptempo "Billy Budd" and the wittily observed "Spring-Heeled Jim", but the *pièce de résistance* is a song called "Lifeguard Sleeping, Girl Drowning", a metaphorical narrative, sung in a sobbing whisper that cuts deeper than all the rest put together. Here is the genuinely tragic dimension that the other songs only play at.



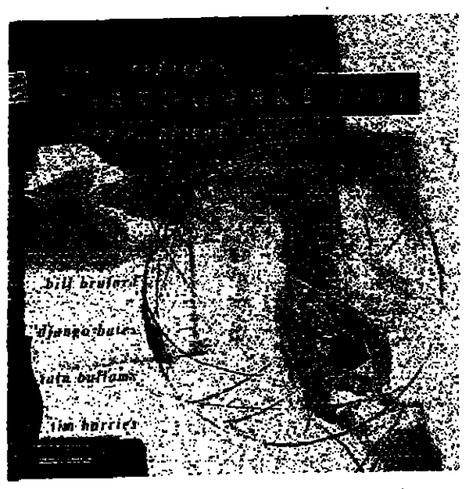
Morrissey: self-obsessed

☐ **NINE INCH NAILS**
The Downward Spiral
Nothing/Island 522 126-2★
A CAREFULLY crafted album which gleefully traces the descent of a man into reptilian depths of degradation. Its harsh, calculated barbarism is designed to assault the senses and titillate areas of the psyche where the murk gathers.

☐ **BECK**
Mellow Gold
Geffen GED24634★★
BECK marshalls the sounds of slide guitars, sitars, kazoos, beatbox rhythms, samplers, and raging blizzards of electronic noise to produce a maverick strain of folk-voodoo pop; strange but a lot of fun.

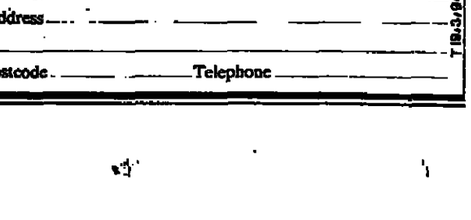
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How the tenor sax came to the fore

Clive Davis introduces the masters of an instrument once dismissed by the purists

THE TIMES GREAT JAZZ COLLECTION

As every advertising executive knows, few images evoke the relaxed, free-wheeling ambience of jazz better than that of a tenor saxophonist in full flow, eyes closed, his horn tilted at a rakish angle. While the trumpet is still traditionally regarded as the prince of jazz instruments, the tenor saxophone has inexorably risen to dominance in the modern era.

Strange as it may seem, in jazz circles Adolphe Sax's invention was initially thought of as little more than a novelty instrument, not far removed from the xylophone or the washboard. The now all but extinct C-melody saxophone was in vogue in the 1920s, but even at the height of the big band era the tenor was still predominantly an ensemble instrument, used to create velvet textures behind a star clarinetist or trumpeter.

If one musician can be singled out as the father of modern tenor playing it is undoubtedly Coleman Hawkins, a virtuoso whose command of phrasing, harmony and tone yielded an historic improvisation on the song "Body and Soul" in 1939. Hawkins' lush vibrato and his ability to repeatedly sub-divide the pulse without breaking the flow of a tune were widely imitated, and he continued to exert his influence on the generation of players, notably Sonny Rollins, who arrived in the 1950s.

By 1960, the date of the recording on this compilation, Hawkins was something of an erratic elder statesman (for years he was said to have lived on a diet of just soup and brandy) but he could still play with verve and authority on the right occasion. Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis, his robust, tenor-playing partner on the up-beat "In A Mellow Tone", gives him all the necessary encouragement.

The other great early romantic Ben Webster (1909-73) was a mainstay of Duke Ellington's orchestra during one of its most fertile periods before he embarked on a solo career, part of which was spent in exile in Europe. Though his rich timbre invited comparison with Hawkins, his soloing was more melodically direct. Simultaneously gruff yet tender, his ballads were once aptly compared to a sailor's kiss. The effects can be sampled here on a 1960 club recording, "At the Renaissance".

With the advent of bebop, the tenor saxophonists seemed briefly to lose the initiative to alto players intent on emulating Charlie Parker. A link between the graceful pre-war style of Lester Young and the modernists was formed by the imposing figure of Dexter Gordon. A confirmed bebopper in the 1940s, Gordon later evolved the more stolid approach demonstrated here on his original mid-tempo number "Mrs Miniver", recorded in 1970.

Throughout the years of harmonic change and experiment there remained a broad market for a more visceral, good-time brand of music. Gene Ammons (1925-1974), the son of the boogie-woogie master Albert Ammons, enjoyed huge popularity as an exponent of "soul jazz", which blended hard bop with exhilarating gospel cadences. His many albums varied wildly in quality, but the best of them had the unpredictable flavour of late-night jam sessions.

Just as Hawkins and Webster dominated one era, so the 1950s and 1960s belonged to Sonny Rollins and John Coltrane. The compilation finds Rollins (born in 1929) near the pinnacle of his career on a selection from the classic album *Way Out West*. The session was an early example of Rollins's trio work. Dissatisfied with some of his earlier pianists, he dispensed with one altogether on this date.

Even the lack of the extra chordal instrument makes little or no difference. A superhumanly inventive improviser, Rollins possessed a richer vocabulary than any of his contemporaries, especially on up-tempo compositions. The bland all-purpose band that he takes on occasional concert hall tours today bears no comparison with the groups that he led 30 or so years ago.

The two performances by Coltrane (1926-67) date from 1957 and 1958, when he was still better known as a sideman with the Miles Davis Quintet, and well before he veered off into the avant-garde. Irving Berlin's "Russian Lullaby", taken at an improbably brisk tempo, represents the technocratic side of Coltrane's persona. This legacy has spawned many imitators — to the detriment of jazz itself.

HERMAN LEONARD



Dexter Gordon at the Royal Roost, New York in 1948

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4. Dexter Gordon featuring Tommy Flanagan, Larry Ridley, Alan Dawson — "Mrs Minever" (7:33)
5. Gene Ammons featuring Tommy Flanagan, Doug Watkins, Arthur Taylor, Ray Barretto — "Hip Tip" (8:58)
6. John Coltrane featuring Red Garland, Paul Chambers, Arthur Taylor — "Russian Lullaby" (5:42)
7. Ben Webster featuring Jimmy Rowles, Jim Hall, Red Mitchell, Frank Butler — "Georgia on my Mind" (6:44)

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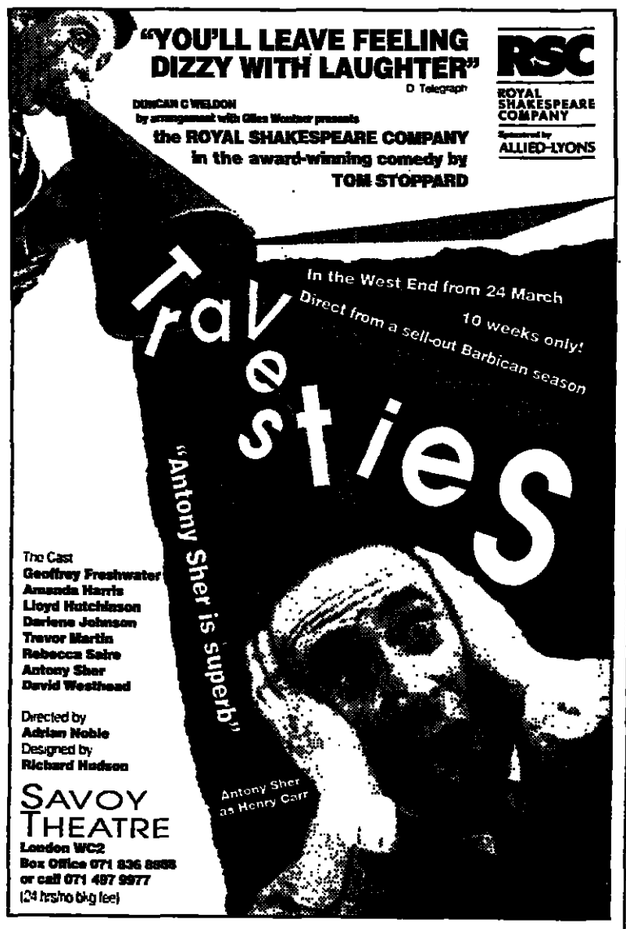
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Today 2.30 & 7.30
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ENTERTAINMENTS ALSO APPEARS ON PAGE 4

OPERA & BALLET

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ART GALLERIES

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Michael Parkin Gallery, Roland Collins. London-Dieppe retrospective from £250. 11, Motcomb Street SW1. Tel 071 235 8144.

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1. 10-8 daily. Recorded info 071-439 4996/7. GOYA:TRUTH AND FANTASY - Book Tickets on 071-386 4555 (b/kg fee). THE UNKNOWN MODIGLIANI: DRAWINGS FROM THE COLLECTION OF PAUL ALEXANDRE. "IN PURSUIT OF THE ABSOLUTE": ART OF THE ANCIENT WORLD. Book Tickets on 071-240 7200 (b/kg fee).

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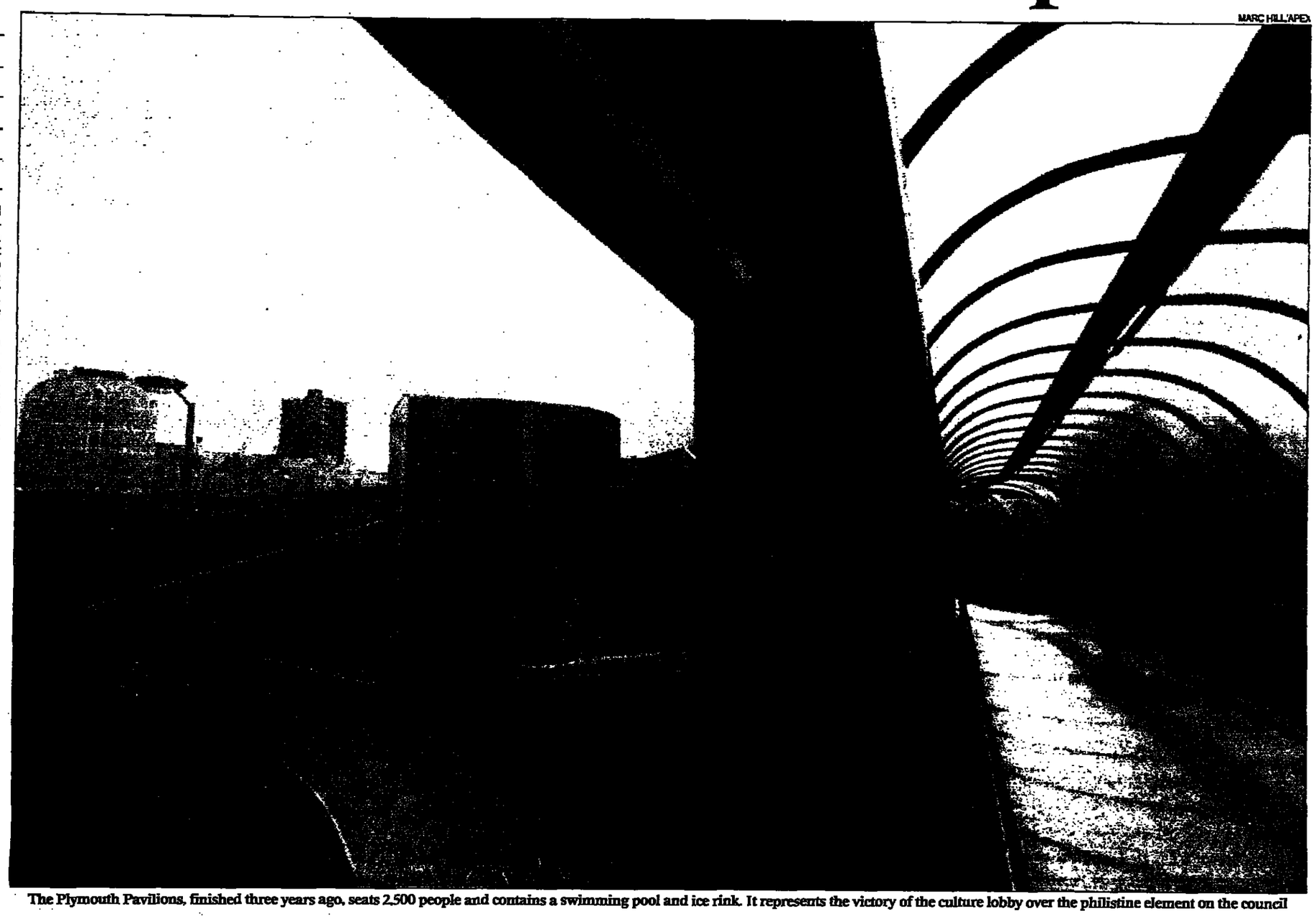
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PLYMOUTH | ON SHOW

Fresh breezes in the old port

The city of Drake is now able to attract some of the brightest stars in show business



MARC HILL'APEX

The Plymouth Pavilions, finished three years ago, seats 2,500 people and contains a swimming pool and ice rink. It represents the victory of the culture lobby over the philistine element on the council

The last thing I wanted when I took a summer job as a deckchair attendant after leaving school was to appear on stage in a one-man show. But that brief career says all you need to know about the cultural condition of Plymouth *circa* 1960.

My appearances were in a tent, which was still a tent for all that it was called the Hoe Theatre. It stood flapping in the breeze behind the famous promenade where Drake played his game of bowls, and from time to time the forecast for sea area Plymouth would bring to our attendants' hut a white-coated man called Fred. He would be seeking a volunteer to spend the night in the Hoe Theatre to prevent it being blown off its tent pegs.

The overtime was handy, so I would raid the scenery dock for suitable sleeping accommodation, which is why I preferred shows that involved a sofa. The sleep would sometimes be interrupted by the pistol-shot snapping of guy ropes and I would effect repairs. I lay claim to a singular achievement: I never lost the Hoe Theatre.

The comedian Gordon Peters always seemed to be the star at Plymouth in those summers, a comedian of the second rank appearing in a theatre of the fifth rank where the audience sat on canvas chairs with their feet on grass. It was perfect, if you wanted somewhere to keep chickens. For a theatre-going public, it was pathetic, even shaming, and it helped label Plymouth a cultural desert. God only knew what the tourists made of it. The city fathers, having shown vision in rebuilding after Hitler's little joke, were blind philistines when it came to culture.

All of that has changed almost beyond imagining. I drive down the broad avenue of Royal Parade now and find at its western end a splendid hexagonal building, the Theatre Royal, which seats nearly 1,300 in its main auditorium and has stage and backstage facilities that are spoken of with awe by nationally and internationally famous stars.

Turn left beside the Royal and then sharp right, past the gothic splendour of the Duke of Cornwall hotel towards the grim former wastelands of Millbay Docks, and another, brasher, edifice rises. This is the Plymouth Pavilions: 2,500 seats! The Atlantis fun pool! A kidney-shaped ice rink! Certain departed Tories must be spinning in their graves.

Alderman Harold Pattinson was the biggest cheese in Plymouth's Tory larder in the 1960s and, to give him a smidgon of credit, it was he who first succumbed to the theatre lobby, which had been wondering aloud why the Theatre Royal, ludicrously demolished to make way for a cinema in 1937, had yet to be replaced as promised.

The trouble was that Pattinson was pure politics and there were few votes in culture. By profession an insurance man, he regarded risk as a four-letter word. He thought he could silence the lobbyists by proposing a theatre of 750 seats, which would be little bigger than the rope-and-canvas number on the Hoe and only twice the size of the hopelessly-inadequate Athenaeum, a snooty place whose physical smallness was only matched by its minuscule audiences.

There was also, and is still, the Palace, a huge and much-loved old place in Union Street given over to bingo, but refurbishing that would have cost a mint and no amount of money could alter its location, which obliged the culturally-minded to run the gamut of prostitutes and other hazards. In Plymouth, the answer to "what shall we do with the drunken sailor?" is "scrape him off the pavement in Union Street".

A mighty battle ensued, the council versus a theatre lobby led by Charles May, a telephone engineer and part-time concert promoter, Ronald Sprague, ebullient chairman of a local amateur dramatic company called The Carmenians and (I declare an interest) my father, who, as the city's music and drama librarian, had the tricky task of serving his employers by day and campaigning to enlighten them by night.

May brought important qualities to this triumvirate. Never knowingly undersold, least of all by himself, he fought with all guns blazing. He has a passionate love of classical music and as a lobbyist he is more Wagner than Chopin. If May staged the *1812* overture, there would be live cannon pointed at the council chamber. He says now: "I took on concert promoting for the same reason that I took on the council over the theatre: I've got a big head and I thought I knew better than they did."

If May, now 63 and retired from British Telecom (though not from concert promoting), had a certain arrogance, it was put to good use. He was the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's local agent for 25 years, so he, like his partners in the venture, knew people who knew other people who would say the right things to the council. Such as, you need a proper theatre. Such as, 750 seats is not enough. Such as, call yourselves a modern city?

All things must pass and Pattinson duly did. By the early 1970s, the council was committed to a proper theatre: indeed, the plan became one for a multi-purpose complex.

Alas, money shortages and the curious case of the Lloyds Bank building, which stood next to the new theatre site and could not be demolished because it was listed Grade II, put paid to the idea of a complex. It also forced a compromise on size (the lobbyists wanted 1,800 seats).

At the design stage, exactly one metre was shaved off the hexagon. Result: a main auditorium of 1,300 seats, with an electronically operated system which converts it to 700 for smaller productions, plus a small, intimate theatre, the Drum, holding 250, plus bars, restaurant and a foyer space big enough for exhibitions.

The Theatre Royal, which cost only £7 million, was opened by Princess Margaret in May 1982 and grant-aided by the Arts Council, the local council and the EC Regional Development Fund. There was still some head-scratching about size, but the fact that it existed at all was a miracle: in the early months there were moments when one thought it might vanish, as if a mirage.

As with all theatres, the Royal lurches from crisis to crisis. So does the Pavilions, which was finished three years ago and answered the size complaints (main auditorium 2,500, staging everything from rock to wrestling).

Yet another financial crisis provoked the merging of the two under one chief executive, Adrian Vinkin, although he answers to separate boards, but the punters at the door hardly care about that.

They ought, however, to care about the two venues, and several smaller ones. Every night coaches from Cornwall and north Devon draw up outside the Royal and the Pavilions, demonstrating (as Plymouth Argyle, the local football club, has known for many years) that Plymouth has a catchment area sufficient to fill big venues if the shows are right.

Just how many Plymouthian bums are on those seats has always been a moot point. The figures suggest that Plymouth's notorious indifference to quality on its own doorstep is being eroded, though slowly. The question now is whether the new generation, weaned on the telly, knows or cares that the former cultural desert now boasts several oases of first-rate entertainment.

Late at night on Royal Parade and in Millbay Road, the coaches and buses pull away and the auditoriums fall silent for a few hours. Security men keep watch, but with no need of a sack of tent pegs delivered by a man called Fred. This, believe me, is some achievement.

PETER BARNARD



The Theatre Royal now boasts facilities that are spoken of with awe by nationally and internationally famous stars

THEATRE

JUST when you thought culture had made it big in Plymouth, the **Theatre Royal** (0752 267222) chooses to stage a world premiere of ... Barry Manilow's *Copacabana* (until April 2). Weightier matters at the **Drum** (same number) with *Waiting for Godot*, until March 25.

MUSIC

RECITALS at the **Guildhall** (0752 220010) by Ricardo Castro (Tuesday) and Mark Anderson (April 21), first and third respectively in the 1993 Leeds piano competition. **The Pavilions** (0752 229922) pays tribute to Freddie Mercury and Queen on March 27, and the British Open Snooker tournament is on March 31-April 7.

ART

THE **Plymouth Arts Centre** (0752 660060), under its long-time and redoubtable director Bernard Samuels, has just launched "Defending the Imagination", a new motto for the centre tied to an initial exhibition which ends today. Also, art workshops for children, every Saturday, 10am-noon, admission £2.50. And don't miss the giant mural on the Barbican by Plymouth artist Robert Lenkiewicz, using the faces of local people.

MUSEUM

AT **Plymouth Museum** (0752 668000), "Prehistoric Dartmoor: Exploring Lives from the Past" marks the centenary of the Dartmoor Exploration Committee with an exhibition exploring how the vision of prehistoric Dartmoor has changed since Victorian times. Until April 16.

DAVID ASKHAM



Robert Lenkiewicz's mural of Plymouth's history

EATING OUT

AT ONE time the best way to get decent food in Plymouth was to buy a cooker. Times change. **Piermasters** (0752 229345), on the Barbican by the fish quay, specialises in seafood and does it well. Italian fancies are best satisfied at **Bella Napoli** (0752 667772), also on the Barbican, or **Trattoria Pescatore** (0752 600201), which is in Stonehouse close to the Britanny Ferries terminal. The **Blue Riband** (0752 662866) atop the Plymouth Moat House hotel caters for all tastes and throws in spectacular views of the Plymouth Sound and the city. **Chez Nous** (0752 266793) in Frankfurt Gate, three minutes from the Theatre Royal, is probably the best of the French.

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament:

THOMAS ADÈS



Profession: Composer. Since September 1993, he has been composer-in-association at the Hallé Orchestra in Manchester.

Age: 23

Up and running: Busy working on a string quartet for the Endellion, and his first piece for the Hallé, a ten-minute "*bonne bouche*" called *The Story of the Harp*.

Forthcoming: April 18: Radio 3 will broadcast his *Five Eliot Landscapes* (1990) for soprano and piano; April 19: live broadcast from Pebble Mill of Sonata for harpsichord, oboe and French horn for Birmingham Contemporary Music Group. April 21: he plays his "explosion of a Dowland song" for piano solo with the Composers Ensemble in Bristol. Meanwhile, his first chamber opera, which is about the late Duchess of Argyll and intended for the Almeida in July 1995, has reached the libretto stage.

History: His surname reveals French-Arabic stock, with a great-grandfather from Alexandria; his mother is professor of art history at the University of Essex and curator of the current Dalí exhibition at the Hayward Gallery. The only other musician in the family is a 12-year-old, tuba-playing brother. Adès himself studied piano and composition at the Guildhall School, graduated with a double first in music from King's, Cambridge, and won second prize in the piano class of the 1989 BBC Young Musician of the Year. Composition is now beginning to dominate in a still busy recital and conducting schedule.

Penchants: He enjoys writing for voices, choosing idiosyncratic texts, ranging from anonymous nonsense verse and psalms in Anglo-Saxon to the works of Tennessee Williams and Omar Khayyam. He has discovered his own personal and highly versatile musical language consisting of little patterns of expanding intervals. However, he insists, "I'm *not* a minimalist. I hate music which sounds lobotomised."

On composition: "I found I was thinking differently in music from the way others seemed to be thinking — and I had to get to grips with that. And as I played even the central piano repertoire, I felt parts of my brain were being revealed that I wasn't using at all. That's why I started composing."

On himself: Strongly disapproves of chasing the market. "When fashions change, your music will be dropped," he says. He works intensely and in relative isolation in an attic in Belsize Park, north London. "I love city life — though there's a side of me that wants to disappear and live in an igloo and write entirely hermetic music."

Prospects: He could well continue to make a career as either a pianist or conductor, but such is the originality and urgency of his writing (and so strong, it seems, is the commitment of his publishers, Faber Music) that his future as a composer of significance seems assured.

HILARY FINCH

mail ORDER

Sensuous glass creations

The American firm Steuben uses the finest techniques to create excellent presents and collectors' pieces

STEUBEN is described as "the Rolls-Royce of American glass" in *Metropolitan Home* magazine, and one glance at the company's catalogue demonstrates why. Using the finest materials and the techniques of hand forming, moulding and casting, cutting, polishing and engraving, Steuben's designers and craftsmen create gifts and decorative items of clean lines and understated elegance. Steuben's main shop is at 5th Avenue and 56th Street, and it has other outlets and concessions in the United States, and in Hong Kong and Japan. The company also has a mail-order catalogue. The items that can be bought through the catalogue include:

Handkerchief Vases: The hand-formed Handkerchief Vase and its companion, the new Small Handkerchief Vase, are ideal for displaying casual arrangements and posies of country flowers. Their sensuous shape and lack of embellishment make them both pretty and modern and, at $225 (£150) and $625 (£416) each, why not consider them as unusual wedding presents?

The Michael Graves Collection: To create even more spectacular flower arrangements, look at the Archaic Vase range. The first works in glass done by the eminent post-modern architect Michael Graves, these were inspired by ancient Etruscan wide-mouthed vases, supported by bronze-footed armatures. There are three vases, varying in width from 9¾in to 13in, and in price from $1,695 (£1,128) to $2,375 (£1,581).



Extragavant paperweight: $3,100 (£2,063)

The Hand Cooler Collection: Palm-sized crystal animals designed by Lloyd Atkins, one of Steuben's longest-serving artists, these would make great serial gifts. Each of the animals has a symbolic meaning: the Cat, which apparently ensures a happy marriage if presented on the wedding day, (width 2½in, $150, or £100) is shaped with feline sensuality; the Pig (3⅛in wide, $150, or £100) has a wonderfully hang-dog look and apparently symbolises business success. The Owl, "a totem for wisdom and concentration" (2½in high, $150, or £100) would be a good present for a student.

Another good source of presents is The Shell Collection, four attractive shapes at $195 (£130) each.

For those with a passion for the heavens, Galaxy by Donald Pollard is a perfect orb in which "stardust" and shining bubbles of different sizes are suspended, and which stands on a sterling silver base, for $780 (£520). Terra-centrics might prefer a crystal ball engraved with images of the continents — Planet Earth by Joel Smith has a walnut and slate pedestal and comes with a red leather case: $5,500 (£3,661).

The breathtaking works available from Steuben include "Excalibur" by James Houston, an 18-facet crystal paperweight with a removable knife in sterling silver and 18-carat gold (8in high, red leather case, $3,100, or £2,063); and, for those with skyscraper-sized piles of money, Paul Schulze's "New York, New York", a crystal portrait of the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building and the Woolworth Building (17in high, red leather case, $30,000, or £19,967).

S.L.

● *For further details and a copy of Steuben's catalogue, telephone 0101 212 752 1441. Goods may be paid for with Visa, Access, American Express or Diners Club credit cards, or by dollar cheque.*

JAMES MORGAN



Brenda Widenka, the manageress, outside the shop that caters for left-handers. Below left: a notebook that opens from right to left

A left-handed paradise



It is often tough being left-handed in a right-handed world. But there is a shop that caters for this minority



Mark Gregory, a left-hander, browses in the shop

Most objects are designed with right-handed people in mind: serrated knives have the indents on the left side of the blade to counteract the natural twisting movement of the right hand and so give a straight cut; scissors are made in such a way that if used in the left hand the blades are forced apart so they cannot cut.

Many left-handers adapt and cope very well with the problems of living in a right-handed world, but life would be easier if they could use specially designed equipment.

Keith Millsom, director of Anything Left-Handed, in central London, a shop that sells anything and everything a left-hander could want, is so convinced of the benefits of his products that he offers refunds to any customer not happy with what he or she has bought.

Anything Left-Handed has been in business for 28 years, but it is amazing how few people know about the minuscule shop, packed to the gunwales with useful and quirky items — such as the left-handed clock (£19.95), which runs anti-clockwise, the natural direction for left-handers. For the left-handed executive with *almost* everything, how about giving him, or her, the left-hand calculator (£21.95). It has been designed to fit in to the right hand and be operated by the left.

The shop also stocks specially designed scissors for every function from embroidery (£7.65) to haircutting (from £19.95). Sabatier kitchen knives start at £15.75 and there are tin-openers (from £3.45), peelers (from £1.95) and corkscrews (from £3.95, guaranteed to confound the right-hander. Get one and learn how to use it, left-handed or not). And what about a milk pan with its spout on the opposite side to normal, to enable left-handers to pour scalding milk? You'll also find tools (brick-layer's trowel, £18.95) and garden implements (secateurs from £22.95 and scythes from £29.95).

One of the first problems encountered by children who are left-handed is that of learning to use a pair of right-hand scissors. Left-hand scissors solve the problem: the special children's scissors available at the shop have rounded blade tips and are designed to cut paper, card and thin material (from £3.25). Also, as most teaching is geared to the right-handed, learning to write can be a problem for the left-handed child. Besides two excellent books on the subject *Helping Left-Handed Children to Enjoy Handwriting (£2.95)* and *Teaching Left-Handed Children (£4.99)* — all sorts of writing materials and aids are available.

Just for fun, you could try the left-handed boomerang (£14.95) or playing cards, marked on all four corners so they can be fanned in either hand (£1.65).

As well as the shop, the company has a full mail-order service and operates The Left-Handers' Club, which provides members with a quarterly newsletter, free gifts, 10 per cent discount on all items from the shop or catalogue, and special offers. Annual membership is £9.95.

If you are a left-hander, or know somebody who is, a trip to Anything Left-Handed or a look at the catalogue might be very helpful. In the words of Miss A. Pierce, of Gloucestershire: "I find your products a great help. I am 12 and plan to buy a lot more things from your shop."

STEPHANIE LEWIS

● *Anything Left-Handed, 57 Brewer Street, London W1 (071-437 3910).*
For information about the mail-order service, call 081-770 3722 for a catalogue.

THE TIMES

YOU CAN OWN YOUR OWN

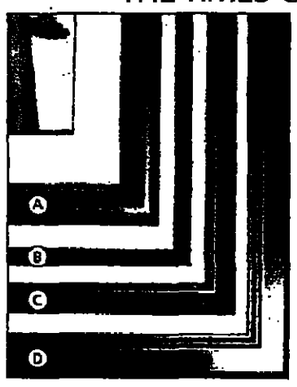


Goya

THE FIRST major exhibition to be held in London for nearly 30 years of the work of Francisco Goya (1746-1828) opened on March 17 at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London, W1. Goya: Truth and Fantasy consists of about 100 small-scale paintings drawn from private collections, museums and galleries. The exhibition, which runs until June 12, is mounted in association with *The Times* and Classic FM, with support from Iberia Airlines, and includes many of Goya's portraits.

To celebrate the power of Goya's art, *The Times* is offering readers a free reproduction print of Goya's 1794-95 painting *Self-Portrait* (detail left), kept in the studio owned by Museo de la Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando, Madrid. The print measures 510mm by 360mm including border and is printed on heavyweight art paper.

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THE TIMES Goya TOKEN 7

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For the light of your life

If you're planning a seduction scene, don't neglect the lighting. Candles in decorative sconces look good and they provide a warm, romantic glow



In the serious business of seduction, lighting plays a major part. When you have invited the partner of your dreams round for supper, dimming the lights is on a par with chilling the champagne and opening the oysters: who would be foolish enough to attempt a seduction by the unforgiving, searching beam of a halogen lamp?

No, the soft and indirect is what the romantic and the aesthete aims for — the gentle flicker of the candle, not the harshness of the kitchen strip light. The sconce, with its overtones of 18th-century ballrooms and medieval castles, has to be one of the most stylish ways to provide it.

These are not lights designed to allow your grandmother to read the footnotes in the *Abridged Oxford English Dictionary* without her spectacles; this is lighting to to conceal and mystify, lighting to disguise the odd blemish and comfort those who fear their lipstick is the wrong shade. It can also conceal deficiencies in the decor, clothing dingy magnolia walls in a subtle glow and offering restful shadows that disguise the nasty damp patch under the window, which you have been meaning to do something about for months. Yet the sconce can provide a surprising amount of light, especially when backed with mirrors; and many come with the option of electric fittings. When you throw out the 1980s spot lights, these could be their replacement.

CLARE GASCOIGNE

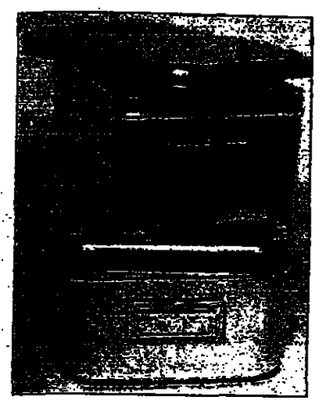
● *Mirrored single light, candle, £55; electric £65. Mail order only from Wilchester County, Stable Cottage, Vicarage Lane, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 6HH (0380 870764). £2 for catalogue, refundable with order. Double scroll wall light, unpainted £47.50, painted gold or silver £55, or colour matched £67.50. The Light Brigade, 28 Rodney Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1JJ (0242 226777). A sconce with green or blue glass pendant, £120, from Gore Booker, 41 Bedford Street, London WC2 (071-497 1254).*

Left: tinware heart candlestick, £13.95, (Shaker Shop, London, 071-724 7672)

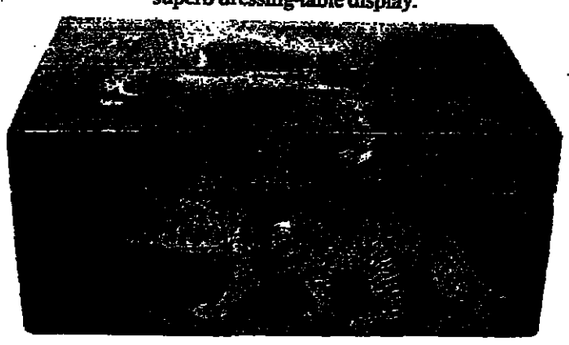
Spring is on the way, and with it comes the vexing problem of how to hide away the winter woollies and the heavy bedding

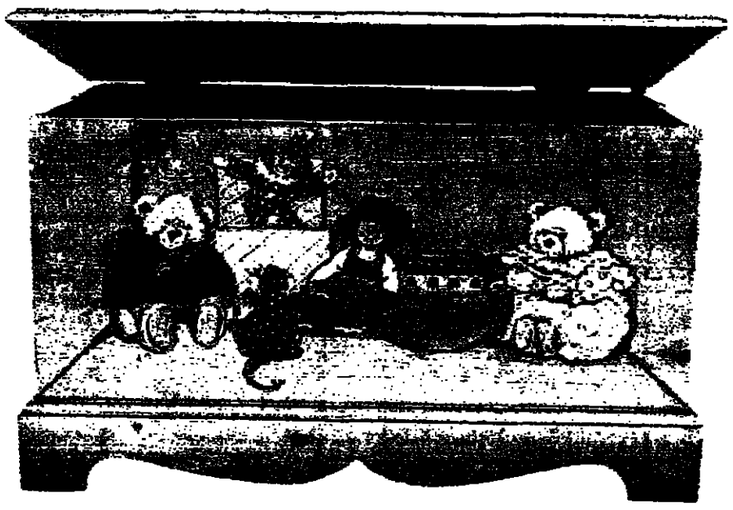
Out of sight, out of mind

EMU lacquered metal boxes (8in x 14in and 7in x 11in) £9.90 for a set of two. IKEA, Brent Park, north London (081-451 5566) and branches.

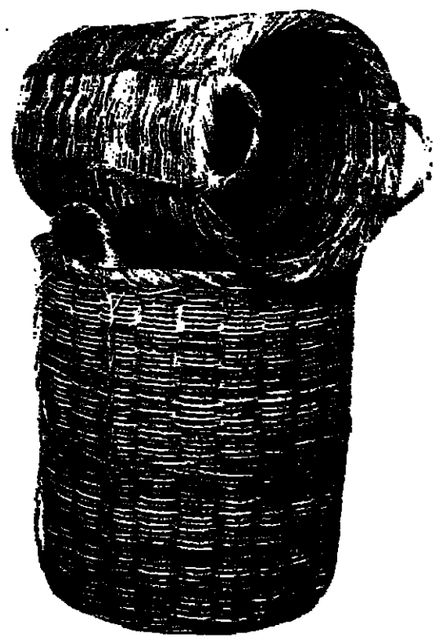


Below: The ultimate gew-gaw storage box, antique jewel case decorated with cheetahs in hand-done modern decoupage, £450 from Thomas Goode, 19 South Audley Street, London W1 (071-499 2823). There is a range of matching decoupage ware which would make a superb dressing-table display.





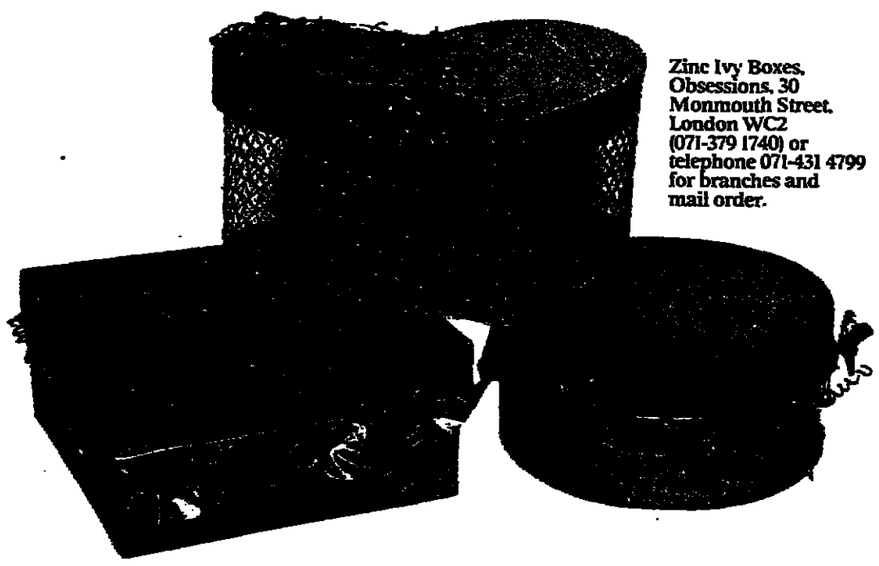
Below: Baskets are big news this year, and some of the best and most reasonably priced come from Habitat. Round rattan baskets, £35 each, are ideal for storing spare bedding, towels — and anything else that is cluttering your world



Below: Triumphal Arch (left), £2,850, and Temple (right), £580, from The Down House Marbling Company, The Down House, Alverton, Penzance TR18 4TQ (0736 65098).



Above: Hand-painted toy box by Dragons of Walton Street, 23 Walton Street, London SW3 (071-589 3795). All boxes are painted to order. The box pictured would cost £380 plus VAT.



Zinc Ivy Boxes, Obsessions, 30 Monmouth Street, London WC2 (071-379 1740) or telephone 071-431 4799 for branches and mail order.



Panduro hat boxes, £25.56 for four: decorate to your taste

It is spring. Wardrobes bulge with two (or even three) seasons' worth of clothes. The cupboard under the sink is full of badly-packed cleaning materials. After the Christmas toy-fest, the children's rooms look like the aftermath of a hurricane at Hamleys. During the dark winter months, this sort of mess is almost supportable. Once the sun hauls itself over the window-sill, it will drive you insane. It is time to consider storage.

Baskets are big news this year, and some of the best and most reasonably priced come from Habitat. Its large rattan basket with lids (24in x 19in x 10in, £42.95) should fit easily into that dead space at the bottom of the wardrobe. You should be able to stack at least two, but do measure the available space before getting out the cheque book.

These baskets are ideal for winter woollies and bedding. If you want to store all the thermals, thick scarves and Nora Batty tights that you hope not to need until next year, Muji has the answer (071-494 1197 for details of branches and mail order). Its extra large cardboard drawers would also fit in the average wardrobe (15½in x 25½in x 9in) and cost £7.95 each.

Hat boxes are useful cardboard storage units, too. You can indulge in a little pretension by buying Harrods hat boxes in that distinctive green and gold (small or medium, £7 each) or, if you want 100 per cent co-ordinated storage, get the Panduro Hobby Catalogue (£3.25 at W. H. Smith or call 081-847 6161) and order a set of four unfinished hat boxes (diameters 12in, 11in, 10½in and 9½in, height 5½-6in) for £25.56. Cover them with paper or fabric that matches your room, stack them in a corner or put them on top of the wardrobe and nobody will know you did not spend a small fortune at a chichi accessories shop.

For bargain nursery storage, Muji's cardboard box with handle (15½in x 25½in x 18in) costs £10.95. Cover it with shelf-lining plastic in white and stick on Beatrix Potter stickers available from Leisurebrands (0225 874545) for £9.95 a set.

The last word in nursery storage comes from Dragons of Walton Street, southwest London, where you can buy the kind of heirlooms any child would love. Its toy boxes are all painted to order to your own design, which can include the child's name and a selection of favourite toys, animals, etc (the shop has a huge archive of images for you to consider). Prices vary according to the size of the box, the chosen paint finish and the complexity of the design, but start at £225 plus VAT for a standard white toy box, hand-painted with a simple design of your choice.

For larger-scale storage, Habitat has attractive round rattan baskets in various sizes, which would look nice in a country-style bedroom, perhaps storing extra bedding or towels; the largest (24in high, 21in diameter) costs £35.

Alternatively, you could use trunks. Stack three in descending order of size next to a wardrobe; pile them up in the hall; use them as side tables. The dream trunk is, of course, by Louis Vuitton, 149 New Bond Street, London W1 (071-409 0155). Prices range from £995 for the vanity case to £9,500 for the real slow-boat-to-China wardrobe trunk. If money is an object, on the other hand, you can trot down to the nearest branch of John Lewis, pick up a school-type trunk (40in x 36 x 20in, £85) and prettify it. (You could turn one into an upholstered bench with non-flammable foam cut to size and some bright chintz, or use plaster mouldings, fake gems and gold paint to create an outrageously overdressed treasure chest.)

The Curver Pirate's Chest from John Lewis solves the problem of cheap mess-management in children's rooms — 19½in x 13½ x 10in, it comes in red, green or bright blue plastic and costs £3.45.

For movable, stackable storage, try Lakeland Plastics Easy-Glide Store & Stack boxes, with castors, in blue/red or a rather dingy green called "aqua". There are two boxes to a set (17¼in x 14in x 10in each), which cost £9.35, and lids (yellow or white) are £1.69 extra (telephone 05394 88100 for a catalogue and details of branches). Plastic boxes are also useful for storing cleaning things. Jolly Boxes, also from Lakeland Plastics, in blue, red, yellow and aqua (14in x 8in x 6½in, £3.25) have lids and handles, so they can be stacked in the cupboard under the sink.

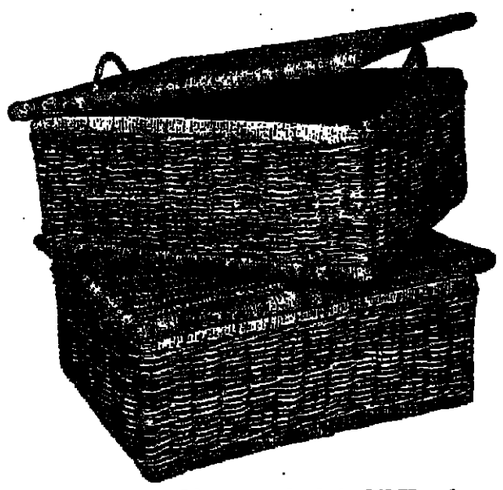
Metal boxes are perfect for clean, modern rooms. Real boiler-house chic can be achieved with IKEA boxes in galvanised metal with hinged lids and hasps for padlocks. A set of three boxes (one sized 10in x 10in x 12in and two sized 9in x 9in x 5¾in) costs £19 and, if you are not into minimalist interiors, they would be ideal for kitchen or potting shed. Or, for smaller items, try its EMU lacquered metal boxes at £9.90 for a set of two.

For something a touch more frilly in the metal line, look at ivy-decked zinc boxes from Obsessions (071-435 4799) (square/round/heart-shaped, £14 each) — great for collections of cuff links and earrings.

But the ultimate gew-gaw storage box must be Thomas Goode's antique jewel case decorated with cheetahs in hand-done modern decoupage. It is gorgeous and costs £450. (There is a range of matching decoupage ware which would make a fabulous dressing-table display.)

The most wonderful boxes of all, however, superb examples of craftsmanship, brilliant conversation pieces and definitely antiques of the future, come from the Down House Marbling Company. Founded by artist/designer Kim Scott in 1989, the company specialises in hand-made and decorated limited editions (100 of each design) scaled miniatures of historical buildings — a Palladian temple, a 19th-century English gatehouse, an octagonal pavilion, a rotunda, a Venetian palazzo — each of which is also a fully functional box, about 17in x 16½in x 13in. Exquisite detail and inspired design make them quite simply the most covetable boxes around — and they work in any interior, from English country to post-modern. They are made to order, up to the number of the limited edition, and prices start at £350 for the rotunda. And they are absolutely irresistible.

STEPHANIE LEWIS



Rectangular Habitat rattan baskets, £42.75 each

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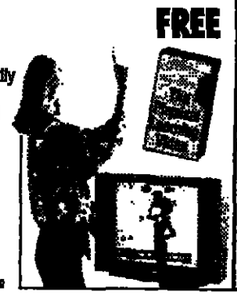
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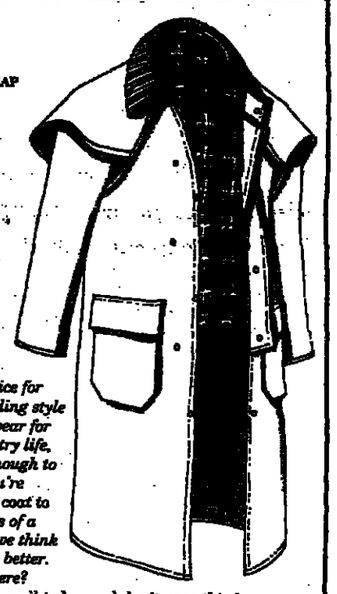
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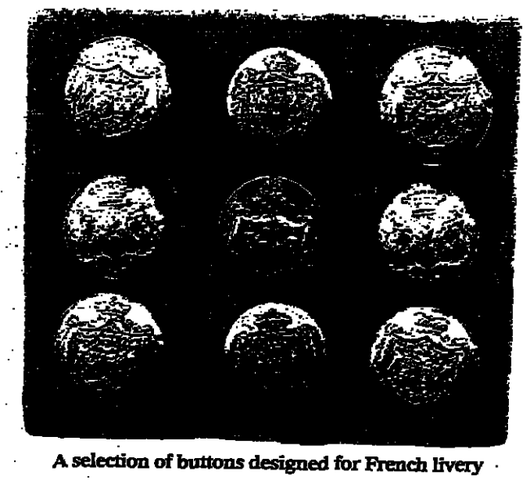
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Buttons from royal liveries, such as the 'Windsor uniform' worn only in the castle, are among the treasures of an ardent enthusiast



A selection of buttons designed for French livery

Passion on the button



MICHAEL POWELL

Dennis Blair with part of his collection of buttons made in materials from gold to wood, which includes examples made for the military and public companies, such as the railways

Forget the steam engine or the spinning jenny. A brief conversation with a collector such as Dennis Blair will convince most people that the greatest invention of Britain's Industrial Revolution was the button.

By the 1750s, Birmingham was manufacturing buttons by the million in gilt, silver, steel, glass, ivory, pearl, horn, brass and lacquered. A writer commented after a visit to the city in 1758: "It seems here as if God had only created man for making buttons."

It was a long-standing interest in militaria that led Mr Blair, a semi-retired architect, to study antique regimental buttons. He was impressed by the standard of modelling and manufacture. Like many collectors, he concentrates on the so-called "golden age" of British buttons, which lasted from about 1820 to 1850. This period saw the finest gilt-brass buttons, which were made for regiments, hunt clubs and other uniformed professions and pastimes.

Highlights of Mr Blair's collection are buttons from royal liveries, such as the "Windsor uniform", worn only in the castle, an officer's button of the Yeomen of the Guard, and a silver livery button of the Duke of Hamilton bearing the family's coat-of-arms.

Livery buttons are an evocative reminder of a vanished age, when every great household had its own uniform for servants. "These are a little-studied aspect of life in aristocratic town and country houses," Mr Blair says, "and I have a lot of fun tracing the identity of the family whose crest appears on a stray button picked up in a junk shop."

In the 19th century, many occupations had a uniform with special buttons, and among Mr Blair's collection are examples from banks and insurance offices. A favourite is a gilt button made for the School Attendance Officer for Monmouthshire.

Early buttons made for railway uniforms are much sought-after by specialist collectors, and even humble examples can fetch £20, a high price for a single metal button.

Mr Blair shares his button-hunting expeditions with his wife, Terry, who collects dress buttons, made for everyday costume. Far more varied in type than uniform buttons, they were intended almost exclusively for male dress, setting off overcoats and waistcoats, until the mid 19th century. A suggestion of their status as fashion accessories is provided by a rare, early 19th-century gilt-brass French button, bought by Mrs Blair for 10p at a car-boot sale, which shows a fop admiring a passing beauty.

Mrs Blair concentrates on collecting buttons in different materials, and has examples ranging from silver to wood and from leather to pearl. All reflect changing tastes and fashions, whether Victorian black-jet buttons or art-deco plastic. Other collectors specialise in subjects such as animals or flowers. A few have an interest in manufacturers, and will look first at the back of a button, to see if it has a maker's mark.



A 19th-century French button, bought by Terry Blair for 10p

Mrs and Mrs Blair, who live in Hertfordshire, concentrate their hunting on the London area and on the city's markets: in particular, they say, Portobello Road is good for dress buttons, and Camden Passage has a strong line in military examples. There is a specialist shop, The Button Queen, which sells old and new buttons, off Wigmore Street. Like most collectors, the Blairs belong to the British Button Society, whose members sell as well as collect through the advertisements in the society's quarterly journal, *Button Lines*.

The outlay needed to assemble a collection is small — a set of six silver 19th-century livery buttons should cost about £20 — and it is usually not worth buying examples in less-than-perfect condition, unless the design is rare.

The most common fault, the lacquering of gilt or brass buttons, can be cured with nail-varnish remover.

More serious is the removal of the shank, which attaches the button to the garment. Often taken off to convert a decorative button into jewellery or cufflinks, this renders them worthless. For button collectors who want to broaden their horizons, there are many related areas of interest, such as button-hooks and boxes or the printed cards on which buttons were sold. Some types of buttons, such as enamelled ones, which were usually hand-made and are often highly decorative, have been eagerly collected and are rarely cheap. Some collectors are experimenting with a new wave of interest: textile buttons, long neglected, for example, are attracting interest from collectors with a knowledge of costume history.

As button collecting is a relatively new enthusiasm in this country — the British Button Society was founded in 1976 — most of the sources for a study of button history are foreign. The first serious collectors were French, inspired by the 1890s revival of interest in the decorative arts of the 18th century.

One of the best surviving collections of buttons formed in this period was assembled by Baroness Edmond de Rothschild and is on display at Waddesdon Manor in Buckinghamshire, the Rothschild family mansion which is now owned by the National Trust. Such fine collections of buttons, all of which were intended to be worn, demonstrate the aristocratic magnificence of the enamel and ceramic buttons of the 18th century.

Although collectors are most unlikely to come across anything so extravagant as the diamond buttons made for the Comte d'Artois, each of which incorporated a miniature watch, it is possible to find buttons made of Meissen, Delft, Wedgwood and Chelsea wares.

Most books on buttons have a strong bias towards the United States, where the subject has been taken seriously by collectors since the 1930s. By far the most glamorous is *Buttons*, by Diana Epstein and Millicent Safro, published by Thames and Hudson in 1991, £25. Mr Blair also recommends the latest edition of *The Encyclopedia of Buttons* (Schiffer Publications, £24.95) by the doyenne of American button historians, Sally Luscombe, and the catalogue of a 1982 exhibition, "Button, Button" at the Cooper-Hewitt museum in New York.

This may seem a long way from street-market stalls and car-boot sales where Mr Blair has made some of his most valued discoveries, but Mr Blair points out that the world's only button museum is not in New York but Ross-on-Wye, in Herefordshire. Opened in 1991, it displays about 10,000 buttons from its comprehensive collection of these miniature masterpieces.

MICHAEL HALL

● *The author is the Visual Arts editor of* Country Life.

Information

☐ *British Button Society, 33 Haglane Copse, Pennington, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 8DR (enclose an SAE). The Button Queen, 19 Marylebone Lane, London W1 (071-935 1505): Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1.30pm. The Button Museum, Kyrle Street, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire (0989 666089): open 10am-5pm daily from the end of Mar until Oct 31.*

In the saleroom: instruments and icons

PREVIEW

TAKE your seats for music week at the auctions. Don't expect great names like Stradivarius, but you will find hundreds of perfectly serviceable instruments for children, amateurs and aspiring musicians.

Christie's, South Kensington, sounds off first, on Monday, mainly with violins valued at £100 to £1,000. **Bonhams** and **Sotheby's** follow on Tuesday, and **Christie's**, King Street on Wednesday.

Highlights at Bonhams include a rare set of Northumbrian small pipes, £700 to £1,000, and a 48-button concertina, £250 to £350. A violin by Francesco Rugeri, the 17th-century Cremona maker, is expected to fetch £80,000 to £90,000 at Christie's, King Street.

Sotheby's has the biggest sale of the week with 300 lots priced at £1,000 upwards. It also has the highest estimate — £200,000 to £250,000 for a violoncello, also by Rugeri.

Phillips is at the funfair this week. On Tuesday it offers a colourful pair of carousels commissioned by Stella Jenkins, the wife of the Right Rev David Jenkins, Bishop of Durham, from a group of unemployed local craftsmen. One, with traditional horses, is estimated at £800 to £1,200; the second, with revolving motorcycles, is £500 to £800.

On Thursday, roll up for an intriguing album of fairground postcards accumulated during the last century by George Green, a travelling showman (estimate £500 to £1,000).

On Wednesday, **Christie's**, South Kensington has a wide range of Greek and Russian icons priced at £100 upwards. The most valuable is a 14th-century Byzantine example of the Mother and Child, estimated to fetch £10,000 to £15,000.



A 19th-century Russian icon of Christ Pantocrator, for sale at Christie's

On Friday, **Christie's** offers a monumental painting of a stag by the great Victorian artist Sir Edwin Landseer, "Scene in Braemar". Proclaimed by the auction house as the "most important work by the artist to have appeared at auction" since "The Monarch of the Glen" was bought in 1916 by Sir Thomas Dewar, the whisky king, it is estimated at £750,000-plus. Just over a century ago, the picture sold at Christie's for £5,456.

REVIEW

A mint-condition copy of the first Rupert Bear annual sold for £1,610, against an estimate of £300 to £500, at **Phillips** in Edinburgh. The mother of its owner never allowed her to read it because she wanted to "keep it good". The book had languished in a cupboard for 57 years.

A slipper worn by the early 19th-century pope Pius IX, enhanced with a muslin bandage protecting his Holiness from over-zealous kissing, sold for £580 at **Bonhams** to a Catholic family. A fragment from Charles I's coffin, which Oscar Wilde kept in a spectacle case, sold to a collector of Wilde memorabilia for £880, double its estimate.

These were two weird and wonderful offerings in a collection of Catholic, Royalist and Jacobite memorabilia from the estate of Felix Hope-Nicholson, the Chelsea aesthete who died in 1990.

L.S. Lowry was in demand at **Phillips** when a small street scene by him fetched £46,000, more than four times its estimate. A portrait by Alfred Munnings RA, of his wife sitting side-saddle on her favourite mare, Kismet, fetched £51,750.

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Bonhams, Montpelier Street, London SW7 (071-584 9161); Christie's, South Kensington, Old Brompton Road, SW7 (071-581 7611); Christie's, King Street, SW1 (071-839 9060); Phillips, New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 6602); Sotheby's, New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080).

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Silvano (left), the manager of Le Gavroche, Albert Roux and his son Michel jr

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Just the man for the job

ALAN WELLER



Traditional craftsmen, such as thatchers, can be traced through The Building Conservation Directory. The publication, now in its second edition, contains more than 700 entries

Finding specialist suppliers can be a headache for people restoring old houses. Now a directory has filled the gap

When I was restoring my Georgian town house I spent many fruitless hours searching for specialists who could supply features that suited the period. My needs, I thought, were simple: window frames appropriate to the 1820s, slate roof tiles and old-stock brick.

I hunted through the trade press, asked friends for recommendations — and drew a blank.

In desperation, I asked my local English Heritage representative and the local conservation officer whether they could help. "Well, we do know that there are people out there doing this kind of work," came the reply, "but we aren't allowed to recommend them." So I resorted to the *Yellow Pages*, and, on several occasions, found myself at the mercy of cowboys.

Now, for anyone restoring a home built before the turn of the century, the help I could not find is at hand. The Building Conservation Directory lists specialist suppliers, consultants and craftsmen working in traditional building conservation.

The directory was born out of just the same difficulties as I experienced. Elizabeth Coyle-Camp, who markets the directory, found when restoring her 19th-century property that she "just couldn't find people I could trust to do the work properly".

At a dinner party in 1992 she complained about the problem to Jonathan Taylor, conservation officer for the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and his wife Lisa Oestreicher, who holds the same post at Westminster council. Mr Taylor pointed out that he and Lisa Oestreicher both knew where to find the skilled craftsmen. The dinner party host was Gordon Sorensen, then a senior manager at Price Waterhouse, the accountancy firm. He suggested that the people around the table ought to combine their skills to solve the problem.

Unlike many good ideas conceived in such circumstances, this one was quickly put into practice. Within two months, Ms Coyle-Camp and Mr Sorensen had resigned from their jobs, and Mr Taylor had agreed to edit the directory. Ms Oestreicher's role would be to help with the research. "Our friends thought we were mad — but we just felt we had to do this. I was a lot of hard work, but ultimately worth it," Ms Coyle-Camp says.

And so we have the directory, now in its second edition and containing more than 700 entries. These are divided into sections, from building structure and fabric to items for interiors, interspersed with articles written by experts.

No matter whether you are looking for ecclesiastical furniture and stained glass for a converted chapel, or reindeer hair (a cheap substitute for ox hair used in binding plasterwork), the suppliers are here. Do you need a thatcher, a blacksmith or a damp-proofer specialising in older buildings? There are plenty to choose from.

How did the directory's compilers find all these people? Lots of market research, according to Ms Coyle-Camp, followed by a check on the quality of what was being offered. She admits that they did not have time to visit everyone included in the directory but adds: "We have had to send people away who didn't fit the bill."

John Fidler, head of architectural conservation at English Heritage, welcomes the directory but gives a warning: "People should be aware that inclusion on the list is not necessarily a guarantee of quality or performance."

On the other hand, the directory lists plenty of suppliers to choose from, so it is easy to seek competitive quotes for specialist services. As Marcus Binney, president of Save Britain's Heritage, points out in his foreword: "The danger remains of repairs and modernisations being carried out by professionals who have no real understanding of historic fabric. This directory should be one means of avoiding them. The best test is always to compare the work or products of two or more alternative suppliers."

The directory has been warmly received by many of the specialists included in it — as users themselves, not just as suppliers. One of them, Nicholas Turner, a kitchen and interiors designer from Dorset, is certainly enthusiastic.

He says: "It's given me all sorts of new avenues; if I do a job and need a certain service, now I know just who I can contact. I feel as if I have become part of a great big club."

The only wonder is that, given our national enthusiasm for restoration and the fact that one in four of Britain's houses was built before 1914, no one had previously put together a list of this kind. Three of the four who started the directory came to Britain from Canada. "Over there", says Ms Coyle-Camp, "an old building is a hundred-year-old log cabin. In this country, there are so many buildings to get excited about — they just need sympathetic treatment. And there are plenty of specialists who can provide it."

It is interesting that it took a team originating from cowboy country to start a guide which will help to protect us from our own sort of cowboys — a handful operating in the building trade.

SARAH WOODWARD

● The Building Conservation Directory 1994 *costs £14.95, plus £2 p&p (within the UK), from Cathedral Communications, 66 Strathleven Road, London SW2 5LB (071-738 6462).*

Likely lad lured by Cornish coast

The actor Rodney Bewes explains why he is selling his seaside hideaway

PUTNEY 19 MARCH 1994 GT. BRITAIN

SECOND HOME

WHEN the actor Rodney Bewes and his wife Daphne first saw the cottage that was to become their second home, it had a closing order on the front door proclaiming it "unfit for human habitation". It had no electricity or proper sanitation, and had ferns growing out of the living-room wall.

But the Bewes were not deterred, and went ahead with the purchase of "Corner Cottage", a former fisherman's cottage a few minutes' walk from the cove at Cadgwith, a picture postcard village on Cornwall's windswept Lizard peninsula. The couple also own a five-bedroom Victorian house in Putney, southwest London.

Rodney Bewes, who spent 15 years as one half of the duo *The Likely Lads*, the BBC television sitcom, says: "I love sailing, rowing, fishing and generally messing about in boats, and Daphne loves to paint, so Cornwall seemed the ideal place.

"I've known Cadgwith since I was 16, when I came down from the North and worked on the big fishing boats. But I never thought I'd be able to buy a house there, let alone a second home."

They bought the crumbling 16th-century, cliff-top cottage in 1968 for £3,000, and spent £3,000 to make it habitable. They have since paid out more than £20,000 to complete the restoration, using Cornish artisans.

Cadgwith has its share of resident actors, including Jenny Agutter, who owns a cottage a few minutes walk along the cliff path from the Bewes' home.

"Cadgwith is a very special place," Bewes says. "When I came back from a job one time to the pub in the village and said to Tony Jane, the ex-coxswain of the lifeboat, 'What did you think about that play I was in on BBC 2?', he said, 'I thought it was a load of rubbish, we turned over to the other side'."

The cottage, with its flagpole flying the red ensign, has for 26 years been the holiday home of the Bewes and their family, Daisy, 20, and 17-year-old triplets Joe, Tom and Billy.

Inside, the cottage has beamed ceilings, tongue-and-groove panelling and an original 19th-century Cornish kitchen range, with decorative cast-iron work. In the 22ft living room, two windows, with built-in seats, provide views over Cadgwith Cove. The corner fireplace has a slate hearth.

A porthole lends a nautical air to the kitchen door, which leads to a galley-style kitchen with quarry tiled floors.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom, with a sun terrace at roof level.

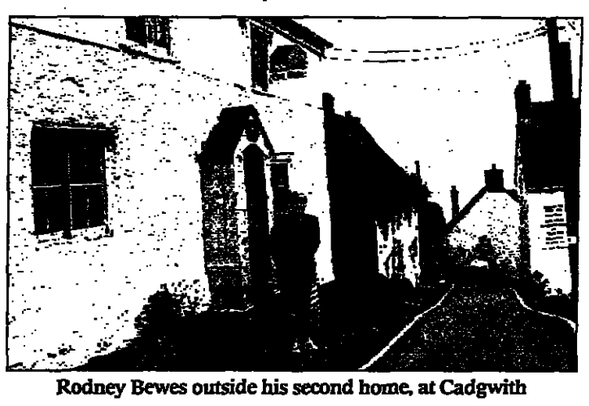
The Bewes family visit their Cornish home every six weeks. During the summer months, and at Christmas, it is let through Cornish Cottage Holidays, in Helston (0326 573808). An August week in Corner Cottage costs £399. The off-season rate is about £160 a week.

"What makes it so magical for people who come from Sheffield, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, or even Hampstead, to Cadgwith for their holidays is that it is a working fishing village with boats that go out every day and catch lobsters, crabs and crayfish," Bewes says.

But after such a long time on the Cornish coast, he has decided it is time for a change of scenery, and Corner Cottage is for sale. The price is £98,500, through the agents Miller & Co in Helston (0326 563411). "I've had this house for 25 years and I love it, but these days I've a yen for a riverside hut on stilts and a field in Henley, and I can't afford both," he says.

"I've taken time off to make the cottage look nice for prospective buyers. The trouble is, holiday makers keep on stopping me while I'm up the ladder asking me if I was in *The Likely Lads*."

CHERYL TAYLOR



Rodney Bewes outside his second home, at Cadgwith

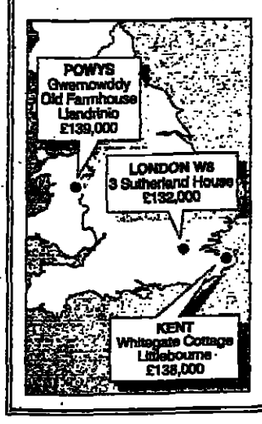
about £135,000



Powys: Gwernowddy Old Farmhouse, Llandrinio, Llanymynech. Restored, Grade II listed, 17th-century country house in three-quarters of an acre. Four bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, dining room, study, farmhouse-style kitchen, utility room. Garage/sheds. About £139,000 (GA Property Services, 0743 232074).



London: 3 Sutherland House, Marloes Road, London W8. Raised ground floor flat in mansion block. Bedroom, bathroom, reception room, kitchen. About £132,000 for 990-year lease (John D. Wood, 071-727 0705).





Kent: Whitegate Cottage, Littlebourne, nr Canterbury. Grade II listed, 17th-century village house in well-stocked gardens. Three bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms (with inglenook fireplace and exposed beams), and kitchen. About £138,000 (Chuttons, 0227 457441).

CHERYL TAYLOR

Buyers' France: LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Wine-lovers' paradise

This house near Salles-sur-l'Hers costs £34,500

Interest in the Aude valley is growing. This southernmost part of Languedoc, inland from Narbonne, is supposed to be the sunniest part of France. With long, hot summers and comparatively little rainfall, it is the ideal area for the wine lover with an interest in history.

This is the wine-growing area of Minervois and Corbières, where the tree-lined Canal du Midi winds its way past sleepy villages and fortified cities, through vineyards stretching to the horizon. Here, you can still find an old house in good condition for less than £35,000.

A small stone house for restoration in one of the picturesque villages south of Carcassonne might cost as little as £20,000, but you would need to spend at least another £20,000 on renovation.

The region also has a few large "*mas*" or farmhouses with outbuildings and sizable acreages, many with beautiful far-reaching views over the surrounding countryside. Most of these are to be found farther east on the border with the Herault and fetch from £60,000 in their raw state.

For about £34,500 you can buy a pretty home (see picture) in a tiny rural hamlet, a mile or so from Salles-sur-l'Hers, about 20 minutes' drive from Castelnaudary. Toulouse airport is about 45 minutes by car; the ski slopes of the Pyrenees can be reached in just over an hour.

Built in honey-coloured stone under an old terracotta-tiled roof, the house has a living-room/kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom, plus an attic for storage. It comes with an attached open-fronted barn and a large garden.

The agent is Latitudes, 14 Pipers Green Lane, Edgware, north London, HA8 8DG (081-958 5485).

Properties tend to become more expensive closer to the Mediterranean coast and in areas around the university town of Montpellier, near the eastern border with Provence.

The summers may be hot and sunny, but beware the windy winter climate if you intend to occupy your French home all year round.

C.T.

THE TIMES

READER OFFER

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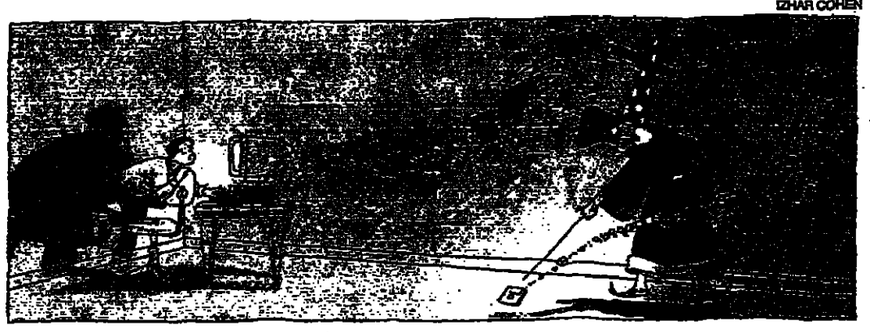
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Abracadabra, and here is your bedtime reading

Giles Gordon meets Book Wizard, a computer programme to help children to choose their favourite reading matter


IZHAR COHEN

Recently, I had an encounter with Book Wizard, and the experience was unalarming. I would speculate that it — for Book Wizard is neither male nor female, and it certainly is not sexist — will prove the most fundamentally innovative commodity to have been introduced into the world of books in years. That Book Wizard, as its name might imply, is directed at children and children's reading makes it all the more important. For enthusiastic youngsters become enthusiastic adult readers, young consumers become grown-up book buyers.

We publish far too many — and far too many indifferent — titles each year. Selection can be a nightmare for readers. Panic sets in and either no book is bought or the wrong book. Readers need informed help about what to select. This is what Book Wizard, the brainchild of bookseller Martin Grindley, sets out to do.

Book Wizard proves that computers can open up the world of books, that Aladdin's cave of new lamps *and* old, to the intimidated and previously uninitiated. It intelligently and elegantly combines graphics and sound with a computer database, and the software will run on any modern multimedia IBM-compatible personal computer. The software coding and graphics have been produced by Keyrandom.

Bookshops, libraries and schools will all need Book Wizard. An annual subscription costs £450, with new discs supplied every three months. The system is being presented to the world for the first time tomorrow, Monday and Tuesday on stand 342 at the London International Book Fair at Olympia, west London.

Whether you are a child or an adult, Book Wizard will assist you to choose titles likely to please and instruct. It is simple to operate, even by the computer illiterate, by way of a mouse rather than the keyboard, which is not accessible to users, if only to avoid the attentions of young hackers.

Users are asked a series of questions. First they have to give their age, from 4-17, 8-15, or adult. They are then asked how much they enjoy reading: not a lot, quite a lot, or lots and lots. And so the trail, the treasure hunt, continues: would you like the main character in your next book to be animal, human, or a surprise (the latter meaning that you are not fussy)?

You move on farther: do you wish to inhabit a magical world (this was thought more appropriate than a fantasy world), the so-called real world, or do you not mind? Would you prefer your book to be funny, or unfunny, or have you no preference?

I plunged into Book Wizard, searching for a suitable title for readers between eight and 15. I selected Anne Fine's *Book of the Banshee* (Puffin, £3.50), described by Book Wizard as "a story of troubled family relationships seen through the eyes of Will Flowers, whose teenage sister seems to be in a constant state of war with their parents. Humorous, fast-moving and thoughtful."

Having gone so far, you then have an opportunity to declare any particular hates among the following categories: teen love, horror, school, war, family dramas, science-fiction. You slash the offending category with a red cross, which, on the soundtrack, comes accompanied by a rude noise.

Now you are into the heart of the wizardry. Lists of books likely to be suitable for your reading age begin to appear, thrown up as a result of your answers to the earlier questions. There are numerous permutations, the titles chosen by objective, pragmatic booksellers.

But the system generates more than lists: titles are accompanied by helpful blurbs, there are images of the books' cover designs, and in the case of illustrated books, pages are reproduced.

As Book Wizard develops, children will themselves provide reviews of the titles on offer, and it will be possible to listen to readings from the books being considered. Famous children's authors will recommend their favourite books, and talk about their own.

There are books for babies and the under-fives, books for reading aloud to children between five and 11, recently published titles, recommended gift books, children's classics, and children's prize-winners.

The programme is colourful (eight colour bands help your progress) and easy to follow, and will instil confidence in the user too terrified or abashed to ask bookseller, librarian or teacher for help with book selection.

Wait till Mr Grindley incorporates non-fiction and hardbacks into Book Wizard. There was a gleam in his eye when I asked him if his next spell might be to inhabit the world of adult books. Undoubtedly, he can put a girdle round about the earth.

Spirit of America

Elaine Steinbeck is the keeper of the flame and proud guardian of the reputation of her husband John

In a letter in 1959 John Steinbeck reflected: "No-one survives in other people more than two weeks after his death unless he leaves something he has much more lasting than himself."

That was written less than ten years before his own death, when Steinbeck's works had already earned him fame, fortune and the obloquy of the few who accused him, quite wrongly, of communist sympathies.

Since his death in 1968 Steinbeck's oeuvre, comprising 26 volumes of fiction and non-fiction, has proved more lasting than even he could have hoped: some 50,000 copies of *The Grapes of Wrath* are purchased every year in the United States; almost all his works are still in print, his plays are revived on a rotating basis, his novels have been translated into 40 languages.

"There was never a dip in his popularity after he died. John just grew and grew," says Elaine Steinbeck, his widow and keeper of the Steinbeck flame. They married in 1951, the writer's third, last and happiest marriage. When they met in California she was still married to actor Zachary Scott and Steinbeck was emerging, with pain, from the ruins of his second marriage.

"He was very unhappy. He told me: 'I don't know if I'll ever love another woman or write another book.' We fell in love and we moved to New York. Before I'd unpacked the dishes, he sat down and started writing *East of Eden*."

Mrs Steinbeck, a tiny, elegant woman with her Texas twang unloosened by life in the East, is still in love. Her memories, gossipy and vivid, recall a hard-drinking, hard-writing man of unaffected tastes and eclectic literary talents. His widow's words are paeans, unalloyed and moving in their simple pride.

"I'm the only woman on the block with a Nobel prize," she says, holding up Steinbeck's 1962 medal in its much-touched velvet frame.

But, as the American poet and novelist Jay Parini shows in his biography *John Steinbeck*, published on March 28, Steinbeck was anything but straightforward, whatever his prose style, and his legacy remains complicated and controversial.

Steinbeck lacked the lyricism of Fitzgerald, the depth of Faulkner or the taut trenchancy of Hemingway, yet his raw-boned prose, written with stark urgency, touched a chord in his countrymen. Steinbeck is perhaps the most self-consciously American of his generation of writers, yet he has often been dismissed or ignored by the scholars and biographers who cluster round his contemporaries.

Mrs Steinbeck once asked her husband why he had not gone abroad like Fitzgerald and Hemingway. He told her he did not have the price of a ticket. "I wrote my best books when I stayed at home and wrote about my own people," he said.

Steinbeck's critics, then and now, cite him as a one-masterpiece wonder, whose writing after *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) declined precipitately. But as Parini points out, many of his works, including *Of Mice and Men* (1939), *Tortilla Flat* (1935) and *East of Eden* (1952), still reach an enormous audience and deserve closer scrutiny.

To coincide with the publication of the biography, Mrs Steinbeck and Heinemann, the publisher, have established a new award, worth £10,000, to a writer under 40 with a "novel written in the spirit of Steinbeck... a work dedicated to issues of poverty, race or political injustice".

Most authors can hope, at best, to bequeath a few books and a reputation. Steinbeck left behind a spirit.

BEN MACINTYRE

● *Elaine Steinbeck and Jay Parini will talk about Steinbeck's life and work at the American School, 2-8 Loudoun Road, London NW8 on March 29, 7-9pm. Tickets from Sarah Phillips, 43 Thornhill Road, London N1 1JS (071-607 6577) — £15, students and concessions £7.50. They will also be at the National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 9PX (071-928 2252) on March 30, 6pm — £3.50, concessions £2.50.*


John Steinbeck (left) and Elaine with the president of the Nobel Foundation in 1962

TIMES BOOKS

MONDAY

Rachel Cusk on Hilary Mantel's new novel, plus Marcel Berlins on true crime

THURSDAY

Oliver Letwin on Roger Scruton's *Modern Philosophy*, plus Peter Ackroyd on Baudelaire

■ STEINBECK: A LIFE IN LETTERS
Edited by Elaine Steinbeck and Robert Wallsten
Minerva, £12.99

WHEN he was not writing, John Steinbeck said, he felt like an uninhabited body. To warm up before the real work of the day, he wrote letters full of restless communicative energy, often apologising for bombarding the recipients with so much news and opinion.

Addressed with striking informality to friends, writers, literary agents and publishers, as well as to sons and stepdaughters, three wives and several presidents of the United States, the letters in this huge selection span the author's progress, from the penniless apprentice writer of the 1920s to the literary giant he had become by the time of his death in 1968.

The anthology, co-edited by Elaine Steinbeck, reads like an adventure story. Anyone with an interest in the lives of great writers will find it irresistible.

ALISON BURNS

Poetry back in motion

Britain's poets are swarming out of their ghetto, loud and proud

The eruption of poetry — on the radio, in the newspapers, in local pubs — points to an important cultural shift: poetry is coming out of its ghetto.

Publishers have begun to take poetry seriously again. For the first time in 20 years, for example, a major publishing house is launching a new poetry list. Cape has signed David Dabydeen, Viki Feaver and John Burnside — all of whom will bring out new, very different, collections in April.

Just as significant is the news from Penguin, which publishes volumes by Frank O'Hara and John Ashbury at the end of the month. Its Modern Poets list is being resurrected after a 20-year lapse. The 150-page books, containing selected work by three poets, brought us the Beat and Liverpool poets, but the list stopped when those scenes petered out. We can expect the first three new volumes, two of them headed by James Fenton and Carol Ann Duffy, next spring.

The phenomenon is not merely London-based: a comprehensive anthology of Scottish poetry comes out in April from Edinburgh University Press, coinciding with a new collection of young Scots work, *Dream State* (Polygon).

The sixth edition of Francis Turner Palgrave's *Golden Treasury* (Oxford University Press) is out in July, and includes verse by established contemporary names — Seamus Heaney and Tony Harrison, for example. Then there are 20 young poets, the Poetry Society's "New Generation", touring the country like rock stars.

"The work is various, original, energetic and not homogeneous. There is much greater freedom and excitement," says Robin Robertson, senior editor at Cape. "This is the point where we should take a snapshot of poetry."

Robert Crawford, one of the New Generation poets and poetry editor at Polygon in Edinburgh, thinks that poetry has been energised by a different kind of readership and writership, whose roots lie in a "postwar extension of the educational franchise".

"The 1930s scene existed around Oxbridge and London, and that set a pattern for various groupings around the country later. Now there are so many different kinds of poetry — much of it very good.

"We are living in a time when ideas of plurality are fashionable — that allows poets, who deal in different languages, to be more comfortable and experimental."

Feminist poetry, black poetry and Liverpool poetry once existed in separate boxes. Mix-and-match is now the word.

Poetry is also speaking more directly about people's lives, according to the new director of the Poetry Society, Chris Mead. Again, this reflects poetry's broader base.

"People are hungry for something which articulates their feelings about the world around them and their place in it. I think the New Generation of poets are satisfying that need," he says.

Ultimately, Mead wants poetry to be part of the national popular literary scene. He wants poetry to be just as important to our perception of culture as the novel. Many readers buy the Booker novel because they feel they ought to, but how many go out of their way to find, say, the Forward Poetry Prize winner?

At present, statistics from Book Marketing show that poetry's constituency is still very small. Although James Fenton has sold more than 6,000 copies of his most recent volume, published in September, many of the top 20 poets are lucky to sell a couple of thousand.

The poets reckon that perception of a cultural shift takes some time to filter through. When it does, they are prepared for the deluge.

ALISON ROBERTS

'Choose your men. I'll want you an hour before we go over...'

DOUGLAS REEMAN

THE HORIZON



Derwent May reviews the critics

5/5 Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews to date in national newspapers.

4/5 Brontësaurus?: Was Charlotte Brontë a "quivering mouse", a "figure of pathos in the shadow of the tombstones"? That was the impression left by her first biographer, Mrs Gaskell, in 1857. But Lyndall Gordon triumphantly "turns the tables" in her new biography, *Charlotte Brontë: A Passionate Life* (Chatto, £17.99), declared Jackie Wullschlager in the *Financial Times*: Charlotte is shown by her new champion to be a "fierce survivor, who turned loss to gain and found unexpected happiness". In *The Observer*, Fiona MacCarthy hailed the book in similar terms: it was "a superb biography of inner life", showing that "every word Charlotte wrote was burningly political, issuing a shocking challenge to the self-deprecation that is still the scourge of women".

In *The Sunday Times*, John Carey acknowledged that Charlote Brontë must have been "a volcanic mouse", but he sounded a note of caution. Lyndall Gordon "judges Brontë as a woman rather than as an artist", he observed — and her "plan to turn Charlotte into a neo-feminist saint" was a bit casual with the evidence. Victoria Glendinning in *The Daily Telegraph* also found the author's attempt to "hear the lost voices" in "the spaces between known facts" rather unconvincing. Roy Hattersley's review in *The Mail on Sunday* carried rather less critical weight than all these — but perhaps that was because, as readers were told in an unexpected footnote, he is currently "losing about 4lb a week".

Col cms: 275

4/5 Bosnia buff: Noel Malcolm, master of most of the Balkan languages, wished there had been a history of Bosnia available at the beginning of the war there. So he sat down and quickly wrote one: *Bosnia: A Short History* (Macmillan, £17.50). It had a rave reception. In the *Daily Mail*, Niall Ferguson said that "everyone who wishes to have an opinion about Bosnia must read it". In *The Sunday Telegraph*, Hugh Trevor-Roper called it "the best, indeed the only informed book" on the subject. Michael Sheridan (*The Independent on Sunday*) added that it was "a polemic of deadly effect" — for it sets out to destroy the idea that Bosnia was riven by "ancient hatreds", puts the blame for the war squarely on the Serbs, and damns the statesmen of Europe. Judy Dempsey in the *Financial Times* showed some sympathy to the latter: the revival of wartime memories in Bosnia, she said, "clashed with Western Europe's profound need to forget". But Daniel Johnson in *The Times* thought this was a history "that could make history".

Col cms: 216

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2	THE EMPTY RAINCOAT **Charles Handy** *(Hutchinson)*	£12.99	2	2
3	TORVILL & DEAN: FIRE ON ICE **Jane Torvill & Christopher Dean** *(Orion)*	£12.99	10	2
4	ZLATA'S DIARY **Zlata Filipovic** *(Viking)*	£9.99	1	2
5	BRAVO TWO ZERO **Andy McNab** *(Bantam)*	£14.99	5	3
6	JUSTICE IS A WOMAN **Catherine Cookson** *(Bantam)*	£14.99	0	1
7	THE ORION MYSTERY **Robert Bauval** *(Heinemann)*	£16.99	6	3
8	AN IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE **Mary Wesley** *(Bantam)*	£14.99	3	3
9	THE FERMATA **Nicholson Baker** *(Chatto & Windus)*	£14.99	4	3
10	PADDY CLARKE HA HA HA **Roddy Doyle** *(Secker)*	£12.99	9	3

PAPERBACK

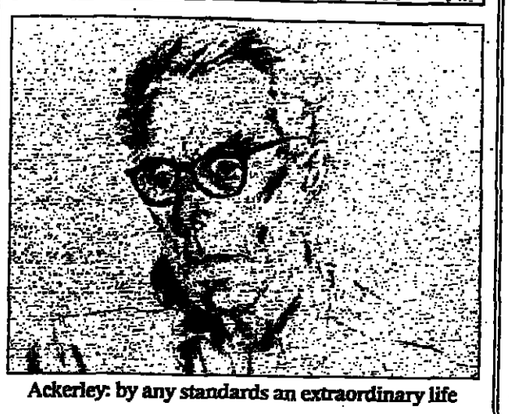
1	SCHINDLER'S LIST **Thomas Keneally** *(Sceptre)*	£5.99	1	3
2	A SUITABLE BOY **Vikram Seth** *(Phoenix)*	£8.99	7	2
3	WILD SWANS **Jung Chang** *(Flamingo)*	£7.99	3	3
4	MIDDLEMARCH **George Eliot** *(Penguin)*	£3.99	2	3
5	PELICAN BRIEF **John Grisham** *(Arrow)*	£4.99	4	3
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7	THE CHILDREN OF MEN **P.D.James** *(Penguin)*	£4.99	0	1
8	PROVED INNOCENT **Gerry Conlon** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	5	2
9	AGE OF INNOCENCE **Edith Warton** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	6	3
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CRIME

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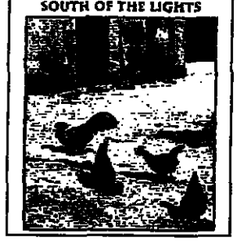
Ackerley: by any standards an extraordinary life

■ ACKERLEY:
A Life of J.R. Ackerley
By Peter Parker
Constable, £12.95
Literary editor of *The Listener* from 1935 until 1959, J.R. Ackerley was an exemplary editor, whose team of contributors included Auden, Woolf, Forster, Roy Fuller, Isherwood and Spender. He would surely have approved of this unsentimental and concise account of his life.

By any standards this was extraordinary. Born in 1896, he was the second son of a banana importer who maintained a second, clandestine family, of which he only became aware when his father died. His exploration of his father's secret life led to *My Father And Myself*, published in the year after his death, 1968, which set out in parallel his own largely frustrated search for a male lover who would be his "ideal friend". The great love of his life was in fact Queenie, an Alsatian bitch. He brilliantly celebrated their 15-year partnership in *My Dog Tulip*, and *We Think The World Of You*.

Ackerley was beset by financial worries, largely due to having to support his mother, aunt and mentally disturbed sister, Nancy. Friends, including Forster, William Plomer and Francis King, were frequently called upon to help. They and all the subsidiary characters are brought to vivid life in Parker's overview which should send you in search of Ackerley's idiosyncratic and unforgettable books.

■ SOUTH OF THE LIGHTS
By Angela Huth
Abacus, £5.99
In this unexpectedly comical forerunner of the "Aga" novel, English village life of the late 1970s yields to Huth's wicked scalpel a gruesome mix of bleak and racy secrets. While lusty Evans at the Post Office dreams of marrying sexy Brenda and becoming Postmaster General, his weary old father Henry has a sudden blaze of fantasy about an unknown woman in a leopardskin coat. Reality has greyer things in store. As Brenda's flatmate dies of cancer, and the romantic local manor house is sold to developers, most of Huth's dreamers have to settle for less than they wanted.

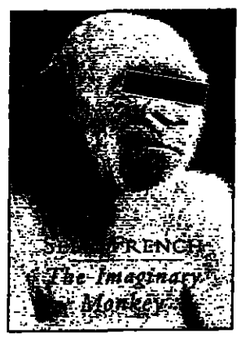


■ NET OF JEWELS
By Ellen Gilchrist
Faber, £5.99
At 19, rich rebellious gifted Rhoda Manning is a college prodigy with her own newspaper column. By 23 she has an unhappy marriage, two babies and a drinking problem. In the background, as eternal safety net and trap, is her father who solves everything with money. The going round in circles of this gilded 1950s American girl, with her huge and unresolved appetite for life, literature and sex, is a terrible sight: Rhoda has the taste for bohemia (art, friendship), and the civil rights movement, but cannot liberate herself. A sobering story.

■ DEATH PLUS TEN YEARS
By Roger Cooper
HarperCollins, £7.99
Arrested while on business in Iran, Cooper was locked up for three years without trial, and then sentenced to ten years' imprisonment to be followed by execution. He was released in 1991 after five years in jail. Cooper does seem rather pleased with himself, perhaps justifiably so considering the nature of his ordeal. His affection for Iran and its people was undiminished, however, by his experience, and this lack of resentment is the most intriguing aspect to his story, which adds a robust and resourceful chapter to the growing literature of imprisonment.

■ ROOTS SCHMOOTS: Journeys among Jews
By Howard Jacobson *Penguin, £6.99*
The humorous shrug implicit in the title sets the tone of this irresistible travelogue. Jacobson, a secular Jew who first rejected his own Jewishness and then became obsessed by it, finally embarked on this mission impossible to discover what, precisely, Jewishness is. His travels took him from the rigid Hasidim of London's Stamford Hill to the happy clappy synagogues of West Coast America, to Israel and to Lithuania, the land of his forefathers. His novelist's ear and eye have produced community portraits which are often hilarious, sometimes melancholy and always unforgettable.





■ THE CROCODILE BIRD
By Ruth Rendell
Arrow, £8.99
Liza has lived in complete solitude nearly all her life. Aged 17 her only knowledge of the world is gleaned from watching television during precious stolen moments. She lives in seclusion with her mother, and their life is interrupted only by her mother's occasional young lovers whom she kills as readily as she invites them to bed. The discovery of the last of these murders forces Liza to seek refuge in the world with her own lover. Sean. She tells him the story of her strange, isolated life retrospectively and in recounting it becomes aware that she must still fight her mother's influence. Rendell succeeds again with this eerie tale, which is more creepy than gory.

■ THE IMAGINARY MONKEY
By Sean French
Granta Books, £5.99
Gynophobic fatso Greg's response to rejection by Susan for thinner Tony is to get blind drunk and pray for release from mortal coil. Hey presto, his wish is granted. As a cute household pet he now has a whole new angle on the dafter personal habits of these mating humans — and endless scope to indulge his jealousy. French goes to town with comically triumphant vitriol as his pint-sized eavesdropping anthropologist, fresh from the monkey house, asks who's in the cage now.

● *Contributors: Tony Patrick, Alison Burns, Alexander Ross, Hazel Leslie, Katherine Bergen*

Richard Hoggart envies Keith Waterhouse the detail of his memories of Leeds

Where there's muck

■ CITY LIGHTS:
A Street Life
By Keith Waterhouse
Hodder, £14.99

There are two kinds of city-bred working-class man: the rural and the urban. The first wants to get away from it all. In Leeds before the Second World War he went hiking or cycling up in the dales; he belonged to the Youth Hostels Association or the Cyclists Touring Club or the Ramblers Association; his sinewy knees bobbed out from fairly long khaki shorts; now and again he sang, going downhill. The urban type thought woad started at the outer tram termini; he liked smelling offal, veg, cheese in the big City Market, the fags, beer and pee of back alleys on Saturday night, Phul-nana scent on the girls who could be picked up in pubs — smells like those, rather than heather on the moors, or cow-clap.

Keith Waterhouse is so much an urban type, so much a Leeds type, so obsessed by that mucky city — though it has now had its face washed — that they ought to put a statue of him in City Square, perhaps not in the centre with the Black Prince but among the surrounding half-naked nymphs he used to ogle as a boy; or they should give him the freedom of the city, and be rewarded with the wittiest acceptance speech ever.

I thought my memory for Leeds detail was rather good but he outclasses me. Still, he is ten years younger and, being an indefatigable journalistic pro, may have actually gone up there and swotted in the local history section at the Central Library. He wallows — luxuriates — in detail, as though he must not miss any item which could contribute to his recreation of this all noisy, all smelly, clashingly visual, tactile and "right tasty" warren. He knows that memories of childhood are more melodramatic, more multi-coloured, even more totally wraparound than it really was. This is the heightened truth but truth it is, a kind of allegorical truth — like a Brueghel painting of a *kermesse*, adapted by Lowry.



Victoria Arcade in Leeds: the city is an "all noisy, all smelly, clashingly visual, tactile and 'right tasty' warren"

Having trod the same Hunslet streets, I am struck not only by that phenomenal five-sense memory but by three differences, the result as much as anything of differences in nature rather than nurture and not to be set against each other.

We all have our special honey pots. Waterhouse and I share a love for that magnificent City Market, but he gives less attention than I would to the second most important prewar gathering centre for working-class people: Woolworths, "Woollies" (nowadays, its charisma has gone). He is far more responsive to façades than I am, but less responsive to public loos. Briggate had what we swore was the longest underground men's loo in Europe. He is less caught up with jumble sales, chapel oratorios, pantos; families each have their own pack of memories to shuffle.

Somewhat in the way of Arnold Bennett, Waterhouse tends to stay within the great body of his material as if content, or at least willing, to wait until something comes up, forces itself on his attention; as it often does. Although I do not soon have what Keats rejected as "any irritable reaching after fact and reason", I do eventually reach out for a summing-up judgment which will act like a magnet within the iron-filing heap of all those facts: "Look, this is the shape underneath, the figure in the carpet. This *tells* you something about working-class life, the English class-system."

Waterhouse, and who can blame him, is fascinated by the inchoate, the shapeless, the fragmentary life of cities, the massed verticals of Leeds; he wants to impose no physical pattern on it, no horizontal planes or skeletal map. In many ways I share that feeling. But after I had, in the early-1970s, read Kevin Lynch's revelatory *The Image of the City*, I knew that my interest, another analytic impulse, was as much in the *pattern* of cities as in their individual details. We all have our own cities in our heads: most of us know what are our regular routes and regular focal points.

Lynch made a cartography of the mind as it creates its own cities. Fascinating in his own America, but much more so in Britain, where what he calls "nodes" (the pivotal meeting places, such as under Dyson's clock in Leeds centre, at the junction of Briggate and Boar Lane), and the rabbit-tracks, with their en-route crossing points — where all these are established not only by our age and the time of year but above all by differences in social class and class habits. This does not make the individual details of a city any less fascinating: it reveals several distinctive, overlapping and coherent shapes, route maps.

So we have to start with the detail and, if we have a good eye and ear, that tells a great deal about the city — any city — and about us. Waterhouse is just falling in love with London in the following passage. Here is his characteristic townscape in all its pantomimic gory glory: "There was fog coming up from the river, and the mournful hoot of lighters, and out in the trolley-bus-hissing suburbs there would be dapper, henpecked husbands boiling down flypapers to make arsenic, and there would be human heads in hatboxes in the left-luggage office at Victoria Station. This was the place to be, all right."

Logging the revolution

B. Traven has left no mark but his passionate, tough conviction

■ GOVERNMENT
By B. Traven
Allison & Busby, £5.99

■ TROZAS
By B. Traven
Allison & Busby, £5.99

ALL that remains of B. Traven is a cycle of tough proletarian novels and the date of his death. That a man who used that name spent his final years in Mexico and died there in 1969 is all there is by way of reliable biography. Searches for Traven's "true identity" were once as fashionable as quests for Baron Corvo and Thomas Pynchon, but have revealed very much less.

The best guesses are mutually exclusive. Traven may have been a man called Hal Croves, or a Chicagoan called Berick Traven Torsvan, while the German revolutionary movement of 1918-1919 threw up a shadowy figure called Ret Marut who seems to play a part in the story. Literary detectives have experimented with anagrams, with stylistic guesses (some thought Traven was a pseudonym for Jack London), and even wild fantasy: one bizarre theory suggested Traven was the bastard son of Kaiser Wilhelm II.

In default of biographical data, Traven really does have to be judged on his merits, and these are considerable. *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, published in 1935, is his best-known book, though it owes much of its prominence to the movie version starring Humphrey Bogart. His great achievement, however, was a cycle of six books known as the "Jungle" or "Caoba" novels which exposed the appalling conditions behind the Mexican Revolution of 1910.



Humphrey Bogart in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*

Government is the first of the sequence. Typically, Traven uses a local example to illustrate the ills of a whole society. Don Gabriel is a government placeman, running a small store and school in the jungle, exploiting both the local Indians and itinerant traders with *ad hoc* taxes and a steady flow of insincere patriotic rhetoric. It is Traven's gift to be able to suggest the venality of a system by reference to just one individual.

In the hinterland beyond Don Gabriel's store is a seething jungle in which the indigenous population, now largely bereft of its native culture, makes a precarious livelihood felling and stripping in the mahogany camps.

These logs — or *trozas* — are the linking symbol in Traven's epic as they are dragged through the jungle to the river and thence to the sea. There they profit only the Montellano brothers, not the Indian Andreas Ugaldo, whose labour makes the "*Ladinos*" rich.

Trozas is the fourth novel in the sequence, but because it looks at similar events from a different perspective, there is no difficulty in reading it immediately after the first. Both novels lead inexorably to eruptions of violence.

Whatever his politics (and there seems no doubt that he was a passionate left-winger), Traven never loses sight of the human dimension. Nor does he merely condemn the exploitative government officials and capitalists; he recognises that they, too, are victims of a system that exists independently of them.

Whoever he was, Traven never wrote less than brilliantly and feelingly.

BRIAN MORTON

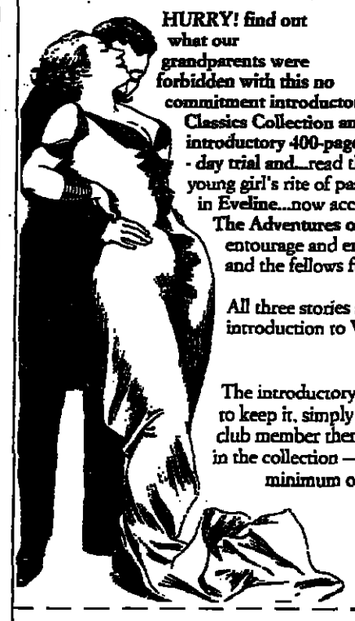
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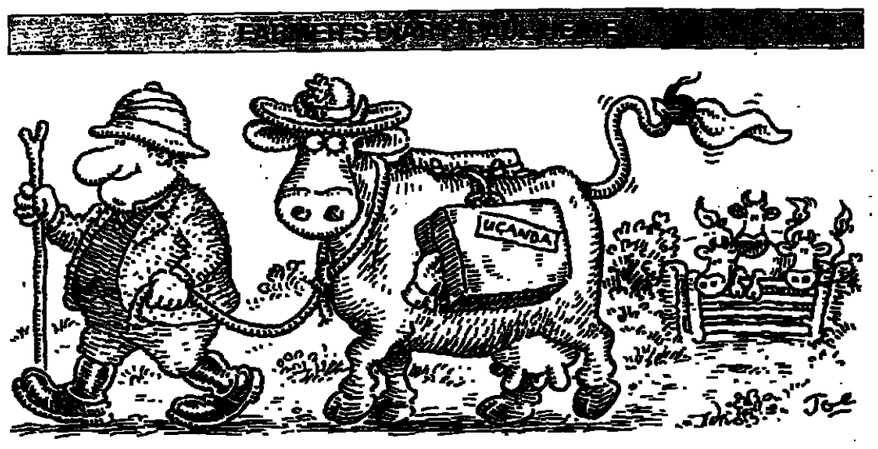
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Does a cow need a visa for Uganda?



It is a rough life, being a dairy cow in Europe today. Expert opinion says that a cow has a natural lifespan of 30 years, but we milk them so hard that they are, literally, knackered, at the age of five. It is said that a modern dairy cow works so hard that it would be the equivalent of us jogging six miles every day: it makes them permanently exhausted, and prone to disease. And we are not in the slightest bit grateful to them. We milk them for all they are worth, and dump much of what they overproduce.

We should be ashamed, not only for our sakes, but for what we have done to the dignity of the cow who has faithfully served us with meat and milk for centuries, only to be kicked in the udder for her efforts. Well, if we want to do something to redress the balance, and show cows that we still value what they do, I think I have found a way.

It is the simplest of ideas, and a dramatically effective one. It works like this: productive cows, bred in Britain, are shipped out to Uganda where they are then given to poor farmers, often widows having to care for families of 15 or more children. The cow provides much-needed milk — 17 per cent of children, many of whom are under-nourished, die before the age of five — but so productive are our cows compared with theirs that there is, without any intensive feeding or husbandry, often a surplus of milk which can be sold to others and the money used to buy necessities, like education.

But there is more to it than that. Each cow that is sent out is in calf, and whoever receives the pregnant cow is required to pass on, free of charge, the first-born heifer to another family that needs it. That way, the national herd expands and is improved, and those who received the aid in the first place are in the satisfying position of being able to give aid to others. It makes sense to me. It is also, unlike some forms of aid, incorruptible; no one has yet had the cheek to arrange a cows-for-arms deal.

I have been talking about this for days now and my cows suspect I shall be flying one of them out. Actually, I would be perfectly happy to do so; but they are not planned to calve at the right time of year. I shall not, of course, mention this to them for they are currently treating me with great suspicion, wondering which is going to be sent down to the Post Office to apply for its passport.

Do they have reason to be nervous? After all, Uganda is a country on the equator: British animals, used to a maritime climate, would surely be roast beef within hours of hitting the African sunshine? Or, as a dubious farmer said to me: "If them folks are as hungry as you say, them cows will be in the pot within half an hour of getting there." Well, as someone who is perfectly willing to send an animal of his own, I have sought answers to these questions, and others, and there seems little to worry about.

Due to the height above sea-level, the areas to which these cows go never have temperatures much higher than a hot summer's day in Britain. Nor are the families innocent in the matter of keeping a cow. There were a lot of cows in Uganda before the war destroyed them. Part of the work of the charity running the scheme is to train people to build shelters, grow fodder, groom and milk. They are regularly visited by Ugandan vets, many trained in Britain, and the overall responsibility for the cows is under the wing of the church. And they don't eat them as soon as they get them home; they are too valuable a long-term gift. It is European agriculture which has shamefully exploited the dairy cow; others have more sense than to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

There are many ways of helping these families, other than by sending cows, but as a farmer this one speaks to me. Cows will be going out this summer, and one of them I intend to pay for. Of course, as a stingy old farmer, I shall want to know where my money is going and so the cow will come here and join our herd. When the time comes I shall travel with her to see her settle into her new home, and watch her change the fortunes of a whole family, or even village. It will be costly but I have had pleasure from my cows (please, do not tell them I said so) and would like to give that pleasure to others. If it is also, as the charity describes it, "a gift of life", so be it.

There are two ways you can help. If you want to feel part of this cow, a donation would be welcome. The other thing is to promise not to tell my cows that it will not be one of them going this year. The thought of it has concentrated their minds wonderfully, and mine too.

● *If you would like to make a donation to help Send a Cow to Africa, please send it to me, c/o Send a Cow, Unit 4, Priston Mill, Priston, Bath, BA2 9EQ.*

The lumbering giants of the equine world gather today at the National Shire Horse Show. But some can't make it — they have work to do

JUSTIN SLEE



"Horses do as good a job as a tractor," says Mr Morton. "If you use big teams, integrated with little engines or pumps to take out the hard labour, you can make a good case for using them."

My tractor for a horse

'We've been thought quite mad for 30 odd years," Geoff Morton says. "But we're still here, still making a living. And now there are a few people coming round to my way of thinking." Mr Morton, with his son Mark, farms 138 acres near Holme-on-Spalding-Moor, in Humberside, with good honest horse power — Shires, Clydesdales, Percherons and Ardennes.

The farm — cereals, beans, mangelwurzels plus a few cattle — has between 20 and 30 horses. The total varies, depending upon the number of foals. The Mortons could work the farm with eight horses but keep more for breeding. About 80 per cent of the work is done by horses, the rest by tractor.

There were no tractors around in 1942, when Mr Morton left his home town of Whitby to spend ten years at sea. "In that area, farming was horses. So when I returned, it seemed natural to me to farm with horses."

Mr Morton has not changed the way he farms because he has not seen the need to. "Horses do as good a job as a tractor," he says. "If you use big teams, of six or eight, integrated with little engines or pumps to take out the hard labour, you can make a good case for using them."

The horses can plough four to five acres a day; a standard tractor does eight to ten acres. But speed doesn't necessarily equal efficiency, points out 35-year-old Mark. "The horses are virtually self-supporting. Their main feed of oats we grow anyway. They produce their own replacements, unlike with a tractor, and there's no depreciation." An average horse will give 15 to 18 years' service.

The veterinary bills and labour costs are higher than on a comparable-sized farm that uses tractors; Mr Morton's other son works part-time, and they hire casuals at busy times. But the Mortons' mechanical costs are far lower. "Our implements last longer and parts don't wear out so quickly because we don't hammer them," says Mark, a trained farrier. "If a horse starts to puff, you ease up; with a tractor you push open the throttle."

Obtaining implements can be a problem. Since the late 1940s, no new large-scale, draught-animal equipment has been made in Britain. (A firm in Devon has begun making a range for single or pairs of horses.) The Mortons have to adapt equipment designed for use by tractors which is not always satisfactory. "It limits us," Mark says. "We could work a lot more efficiently with better equipment."

They have had to adapt their farming to suit the horses. Thus, their cereal crops are grown more for the quality of the straw than for the quantity of the grain. They harvest early with a binder which cuts the crop and ties it into sheaves which are left to ripen before threshing.

Unlike combine harvesters, which cut and thresh simultaneously, producing poorer quality shorter-length straw, the higher oil-content in the unripe crop produces a superior straw which they sell for house-thatching, their main source of income. They also rely on income from forestry work. "Environmentally, horses are streets ahead of any other method of harvesting. They don't damage the soil surface," Mr Morton says.

Mark insists that they are modern, forward-looking farmers who just prefer to use horses. Certainly, they are familiar with the concept of diversification. They run training courses, and the horses have been hired for film and television work — period dramas such as Catherine Cookson's *The Black Velvet Gown*, the Second World War film *Memphis Belle*, and the Webster's Yorkshire Bitter advertisement.

Mark's two sons — James, eight, and five-year-old Christopher — are already showing a keen interest in the farm. "Of course, I'd like to see them take over but to farm with horses, you've got to want to do it." It's just as well they've started to learn early. According to Mr Morton, now 68, it takes a lifetime.

Not every farmer, he concedes, will return to horses. "But I believe we will need considerable numbers of them again. In Sweden, which is very energy conscious, there are now 30,000 horses. And Ukraine, is using more horses because it can't afford oil."

A romantic? He laughs. A Luddite? He roars. "Neither is true — although I'd happily torch a lot of modern stuff. But think about this: European Union farmers are bound by this 'set-aside'. The powers-that-be have said we must take 15 per cent of farmland out of production. If you work as we do, it takes about 15 per cent of our land to keep the horses." He pauses. "I rest my case."

HELEN PICKLES

● *The National Shire Horse Show is being held today at Alwalton, Cambridgeshire, 8am-5pm, adults £7. For further information please ring 0733 390696.*



Working horses used to be an everyday sight

Where to meet the heavy horses

THESE centres offer displays and days with heavy horses:
☐ Northcote Heavy Horse Centre, Great Steeping, Spilsby, Lincs (0754 830286); Chalfont Shire Centre, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks (0494 872304); Bradford Industrial Museum Eccleshill, Bradford (0274 631756); National Shire Horse Centre, Plymouth, Devon (0752 880268); Radford Shire Stables, Avon (0761 470106); Courage Shire Centre, Maidenhead, Berks (0628 824848); Norfolk Shire Centre Cromer (0263 837339); Park Hall Farm Museum, Whittington, Shropshire (0691 652175), Acton Scott Farm, Shropshire (0694 781306); Stratford Shire Centre, Warwicks (0789 266276); Dorset Heavy Horse Centre, Wimborne (0202 824040); Stoughton Farm, Leicester (0533 710355); Bass Museum, Staffs (0283 42031); Whitbread Hop Farm, Kent (0622 872068).

Spirit of the air returns from the south



Jacques

The linnet: always in a hurry

IF ANY bird can claim to be the spirit of the air, I think it is the linnet. It sweeps through the sky, dipping and rising in long undulations, and its rapid twitter seems to fall from on high like the rattling of the wind.

Linnets always seem to be in a hurry. When they are nest-building, the pair suddenly drops out of the air on to a gorse or bramble bush. The female dives in with her beakful of grass or feathers, and the male sways on a sprig above her, his urgent twittering the very voice of impatience. As soon as she emerges, off they swoop again, and are soon far out of sight.

The males are just now coming into their spring plumage, with a crimson crown and breast. They acquire these glowing adornments by abrasion, not by moulting. The feathers on their head and underparts have a buff tip in winter, which wears away to expose the crimson just as the breeding season begins.

The males also have a striking chestnut-coloured back, while the female is of a more sober, streaky aspect. Both sexes have silvery-white edges to their wing and tail feathers, which add to their flickering, insubstantial look when they are flying.

They are very sociable birds. From January onwards, the males sing in the treetops in a chorus — a delightfully lazy, twanging song. They especially like to do this in the late afternoon, all of them looking at the sun as it goes down.

They pair up while still in their winter flocks. These are now breaking up, with the couples beginning to look for nest sites. But several pairs will generally nest near each other, in a loose colony. The males defend a small territory immediately round their nests, but all the linnets in the colony will readily join up again to feed on waste land where weed-seeds are plentiful.

They are mobile in another, unusual way. Their first broods are brought up mainly on gorse heaths, or in bramble hedges where the leaves are still thick from last year. Here their nests are well concealed while other trees and bushes are still almost bare.

But, unlike most small birds, they will move to a different territory for their second or third nests of the season. For these they may use a densely-leaved hawthorn or elder tree.

They can be influenced in this move by a change of diet, too. Early in the spring they seek out chickweed and dandelion seeds. Later, they turn to charlock and fat hen. They also like sorrel seeds in the late summer, the red in their plumage blending with the red of the sorrel plants in the hayfields.

BOTH parents feed the young, often collecting the seeds at a considerable distance from the nest, then flying swiftly back and delivering the food by regurgitating it into their nestlings' open beaks. Their impatience is also on display at this stage: the female will sometimes build a new nest, and even start laying eggs, before her current batch of youngsters have flown. Many of our native linnets go south in winter, and these are now returning. They will be coming mainly from France and Spain; some will have been wintering among the Bordeaux vineyards.

Linnets were very popular cage-birds in the 19th century, but they are now a protected species. However, like many birds of the fields, their numbers have diminished again in recent years as farmers have destroyed weeds on their land more ruthlessly and food has become scarcer for them.

They are a wide-ranging species, breeding all across Europe and into Asia. Their Latin name *cannabina* registers the fact that in Asia they eat hemp seeds. I like that name, and find it very suitable: it sounds just like some playful soprano maidservant in an opera by Mozart or Rossini.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — look out for chiffchaffs returning from their winter home in Africa. Twitchers — Ross's gulls, Fleetwood, Lancashire and Galway, Ireland; little bunting at Drakelow Power Station, Derbyshire. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 36p a minute cheap rate, 45p at all other times*

Ford's spiritual successor to the Capri is a driver's car for the 1990s, made in America but exploiting Japan's engineering chic



MARTIN BEDDALL

The Probe's curious name belies its appeal. The sporty performance from the six-cylinder version resurrects the spirit of the Capri in the body of an altogether more subtle beast

Farewell to the furry dice

The Ford Capri was Britain in the 1970s: white high heels and denim skirts, furry dice and Gary Glitter. It was the first poor man's coupé, a two-plus-two (two seats up-front, plus a small two-seater in the back) that cost the same as a dull saloon but looked as if it meant business, even though its smaller engines would have been better powering a sewing machine.

Its performance was dubious and the handling unpredictable. But that was never a drawback for a car that became a Ferrari substitute for early "Essex man". In 18 years, 1.8 million were made.

The Capri's rather obvious qualities condemned it to oblivion eight years ago, overrun by the growing popularity of more sophisticated hot hatchbacks and four-wheel-drive machines. But the spirit of the Capri is alive and well, although transported into the body of an altogether more subtle and appealing beast.

Ford launches its new Probe next week, a modern two-plus-two, engineered in Japan, made in the United States and designed by Mimi Vandermolen, one of a new breed of women finding their way into the previously all-male domain of car design.

Dutch by birth, she studied design at Ontario College of Art, and joined Ford in 1970, working for the company in England, Italy and Japan. She learnt her trade under the wing of Jack Telnack, now Ford's design chief, a graduate of the California Art Centre College of Design, and a believer in eye-etaching shapes. Ms Vandermolen cut her teeth on Ford's "butch" Mustang.



Mimi Vandermolen designed the car to be attractive

Ford has been anxious to trace the lineage between the Capri and its 1990s descendant. Ian McAllister, chairman of Ford of Britain, even wanted to revive the Capri badge on the new car. But that would have been a mistake, as it is hard to believe the two cars belong to the same family.

The Probe — except for the title that makes it sound like a medical tool or a male deodorant — is Japanese engineering *chic* for the 1990s with the naffness of the Capri removed.

Ford's new car enters a market dominated by the Vauxhall Calibra, a triumph of the mass-produced coupé, basically a gorgeous shape transplanted on to a Cavalier floorpan and mechanicals. But the Probe is not a transplant version of any Ford on sale in Britain. The design is essentially Mazda, with all the works from the Japanese company's MX6 sports car. Ford then designed its own attractive body to complete the Probe, manufactured by Auto Alliance International, a joint-venture company of Ford and Mazda in Michigan. The result is a Ford which could regain the Capri's position as Britain's best-selling coupé.

Enthusiasts could argue that the Probe is not as good-looking as the Calibra. The Calibra is close to a full four-seater; whereas the Probe's back seat is big enough only for vertically challenged passengers. The high boot lip makes loading painful.

But the Probe is a driver's car. There are two versions: a 2-litre, whose performance is saloon-car staid but enjoyable, and the 2.5-litre, 24-valve V6 that heralds a new age of thrills for latent Capri owners.

The V6 is smooth in its power delivery but with enough "grunt" to pull away from trouble at low speeds. The low-profile tyres might be noisy and uncomfortable but the roadholding they offer, allied to the car's suspension and chassis, is prodigious.

Crawling behind a slow tractor on a wet road and looking for a safe moment to overtake is the time, I discovered, to find out just how adept the Probe is. Floor the throttle from second gear, and power floods through the front wheels to shoot the car around the tractor and off into the distance. The same manoeuvre in an old Capri could have been a hair-raising adventure with power transmitted through snaking rear wheels, setting the furry dice a-quiver.

The Probe may be a spiritual descendant of the Capri but this is a car with Japanese practicality and some American pizzazz. The Probe will not be Britain's best-selling coupé over nearly two decades, as the Capri once was, because styles move a lot faster now. But it is good enough to have its own time in the limelight.

KEVIN EASON

THE PROBE AT A GLANCE

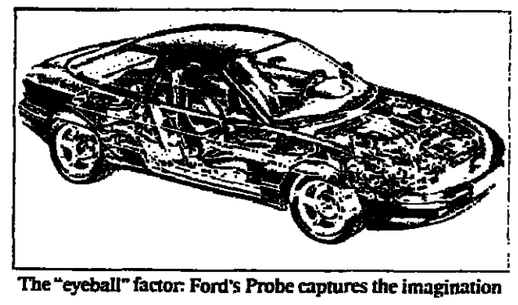
Car: Ford Probe. Versions: four-cylinder, 2-litre, 16-valve, 115 brake horse power or 2.5-litre V6, 24-valve, 165bhp.

Prices: starting from £15,995 for the 16-valve, and from £19,350 for the 24-valve.

Performance: 2-litre — 0 to 60mph in 10.6 secs, top speed 127mph; 2.5-litre — 0 to 60mph in 8.5secs, and 136mph.

Equipment: standard — alarm/immobiliser, twin airbags, anti-lock brakes, tinted glass, cruise control, sunroof.

The California dream factory



The "eyeball" factor: Ford's Probe captures the imagination

AMERICANS call it "eyeball": a car's ability to capture the imagination with looks alone, and the power to make people believe friends will snub them and the boss demote them unless they are driving *that* car within a week.

The Ford Probe boasts "eyeball" by the bucketful, the Lexus wallows in it and the Mazda MX-5, the cutest thing since Snoopy, would fulfil the dreams of any designer watching a computer-screen ideal become glass, plastic and pressed steel reality.

What these cars have in common is that they were created in part or in whole by graduates from the California Art Centre College of Design. Perched high up in the Pasadena Hills, a few miles from Disney's Hollywood studios, many of its classrooms look like film sets, bedecked by lighting gantries to enable impressive photographs of work in progress. Students use virtual reality computers to create cars on-screen, and hope soon to use computer-generated holograms to bypass the business of making clay models.

There are probably only 2,500 full-time car designers world-wide: 1,000 in Europe, 1,000 in Japan, and 500 in America. About a third are centre graduates. So it is not only exotic and expensive cars that are likely to have been influenced by a designer from the centre.

If you drive a Vauxhall Astra, then you are driving a design by graduate Wayne Cherry, the General Motors-Vauxhall design chief. Other graduates are Porsche's first woman designer, Laura Blossfeld. Ford design chief Jack Telnack, BMW design director Chris Bangle and Honda design executive Charles Allen.

The designer has to create a car that works, that can be built, that will make money. But the final key is tapping the emotions. The centre's director Tim Butte says: "People don't wax and polish their refrigerator on a Sunday. Design is the bit that makes people kick the tyres."

THE CENTRE is run as a college but, in true American fashion, is sponsored by the motor manufacturers who keenly await graduation day to recruit the best and brightest of its products.

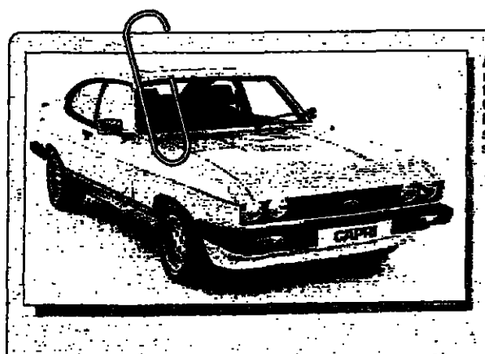
Mercedes-Benz turned to students at the centre for a fresh look for its prestige cars; Honda was delighted when it asked students to dream up futuristic racing cars; and BMW wants the centre to design a prototype to be exhibited at a European motor show next year.

Ron Hill, Art Centre chairman, says that the graduates' success comes through their commitment: "They are all highly focused, and they are passionate about their work."

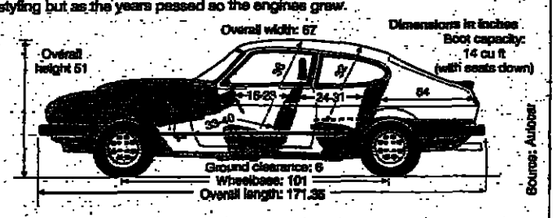
Some of the ideas from the centre are clearly of the Dan Dare variety, but Mr Butte explains: "We run a 'blue sky' approach which is conceptually far-reaching. It may be the only opportunity designers will have to take major risks. For the next 30 years they are going to be working on production vehicles."

VAUGHAN FREEMAN

USED CAR BRIEF



Ford Capri 2.8i:
At one time its unsophisticated looks and exciting performance made the Capri the most stolen car in Britain. A handful of enthusiasts clubs, and loyal fans, mean there are plenty of good examples to be had. Priced at £880 when the 1.3litre Capri was launched in 1968, the 280 model cost £11,999 when it died in 1987. Ford called the Capri "the car you always promised yourself". Others called it a sheep in wolf's clothing thanks to feeble early performance at odds with the raidsh styling but as the years passed so the engines grew.



GOOD NEWS
With almost two million built there are plenty of Capris to be had at prices starting from £1,000. Straightforward 1.6litre Pinto engines are fool-proof and later, larger-engined cars offered hair-raising performance. Ford mechanics speak highly of the Capri's mechanical robustness.

LOOK FOR
The 2.8litre Special with eight-spoke alloy wheels from 1984/85 is a favourite, made in big numbers and recent enough to provide reliable motoring. The Capri Laser and later limited edition Brooklands 280 models also worth searching out. The real enthusiast might seek out one of only 100 Aston Martin Tickford special editions, now priced at £10,000 and upwards.

BAD NEWS
Smaller engined cars were ruthlessly thrashed by-owners trying to match performance to looks. The Capri was the much-stolen hot-hatch of its day. Examples abound of stolen cars, bodged up and put back together again.

TO AVOID
Early cars were dreadfully rust-prone, though thankfully few survive. Even those from 1986 and 1987 had problems. Nigel Powell of the Capri Club International says: "Some Capris were, sadly, just thrown together. Watch for rust in the wheel arches, headlamp area and bonnet leading edge, and especially at the bottom of the A pillar by the windscreen, and where it goes down into the footwell."

INSURANCE
For a 22-year old man, with 40 per cent no claims bonus, living in central London, fully comprehensive cover on a 1985 two-litre Capri Laser will cost £1,094, or £683 for third party, fire and theft. For a 22-year- old woman in London premiums are £975 fully comprehensive and £580 third party. A 55-year-old businessman or woman, in Surrey will pay £280 fully comprehensive. All quotes from classic car specialists Moffat and Co of North London.

SAFETY RATING
Brakes need a lot of pressure to get the best out of them. Car's long wheelbase means that in damp conditions the back end will begin to slide and slip out without much warning.

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(Prices include VAT; supplied by Sandicliffe Ford dealers of Loughborough, Leics.)
Clutch assembly £157.42
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PRICE RANGE
£3,500 to £5,500 for 2.8i Special with 40,000 to 80,000 miles on the clock, up to £10,000 for a Brooklands 280 special edition, but £1,000 or less for pre-1980 1.6 litre and 2 litre models.

OVERALL
For some the only Ford to buy. With something like 900 variations built, there's one out there to suit everyone. Advice available from Capri Club International, Field House, Redditch, Worcs, B98 0AN.

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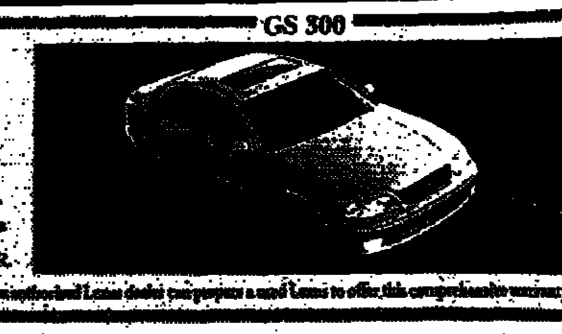
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From one Baby to another

The theft of Louisa Young's motorbike made her yearn for a replacement. But Mother Nature had other ideas





DENZIL McNEELANCE

Above, Louisa Young with her Harley-Davidson that was later stolen, and, right, in her Lancia Y10 LXie with one-year-old daughter Isobel

I used to have a motorcycle called Baby. It was a 1988 1200cc Harley-Davidson Evolution Sportster, as near to the perfect bike as I have ever found. Baby was beautiful, reliable, fast enough (it could break the ton without drawing breath), strong, graceful, and mine. It would take me anywhere in London within 20 minutes; it organised my wardrobe (boots, leathers and a silk shirt, if I needed to concede to smartness); it saved me a fortune on parking tickets and fares and taxis and clamps; it broke the ice with new colleagues and little old ladies; it took me to Paris and Florence and Rome; it was a joy to ride and it made the most heavenly noise.

Baby was my fourth bike; I bought it fourth-hand and it carried me 40,000 miles in the four years I had it. Then, one night, some villains stole it. For the first time in my life, I threw objects in my fury and misery. However, it was insured and in time a cheque arrived. It was March, and raining. In April, when the rain stopped, I told myself, I would go out and find a new bike. But, by the time the skies cleared, I was pregnant.

The small ads of motorcycle magazines always carry an advert or two for bikes for sale because "baby on way". It seems rather sad, to have to give up something you love for something else you love. Most of these adverts are put in by men, whose decision to sell tends to be financial. They would not, for example, have to face the problem of leathers that no longer fitted, or worry about the safety and comfort of the tiny foetus inside those leathers.

Had the bike still been mine when I became pregnant, I would have put it by for a while; I would not have sold it. I hadn't been without a bike for ten years. But it was gone, and that called for thought. Bikes are big, tough, hard, dirty things: babies are little and soft and delicate and need constant attention. I considered sidecars and trikes, but with them you get most of the disadvantages of both cars and bikes, and few of the advantages of either (you can't nip through traffic, and you still get wet).

I didn't buy another bike; I learnt to drive, and now I have a nice baby and a nice little car to put her in, and between them I get most of the benefits I had from the bike.

My daughter is beautiful, reliable, strong, getting faster all the time, and she's mine. She breaks the ice with colleagues and little old ladies. She saves me a fortune by keeping me home at nights. She, too, makes heavenly noises, as well as the odd hellish one. She hasn't yet taken me to Paris or Rome but no doubt she will.

And the car? Well, it's reliable and it's mine. I wouldn't drive it for the joy of it. It doesn't break ice, and graceful isn't the first word to leap to mind. But it takes me to Sainsbury's.

My car is a Lancia Y10 LXie. It cost £7,147.07 on the road in 1991 and, because glamorous cars are a great deal more expensive than glamorous bikes, was chosen for totally practical reasons. The Y10 is small and easy to park. It uses little petrol: a tankful of unleaded costs £19 and lasts up to 250 miles. It looks rather like a wedge of Caerphilly cheese, white and triangular, and its engine is smaller than the engine on my bike, a mere 1100cc. But it is Italian, so it can growl as it revs, and accelerates quite properly when it needs to.

My daughter, Isobel, and I stay warm and dry and can listen to music, which you can never do satisfactorily on a motorcycle (despite helmets with built-in earphones). Isobel sits snug and safe in her British-safety-standard-approved seat, bopping quietly and playing with dangling toys.

The Y10 is a hatchback, and the back seat comes down in sections so I can enlarge the baggage capacity without having to squash the infant or keep her in the front seat. It can hold a lot: a small wooden armchair; three weeks' supply of firewood; 12 flowering shrubs and a few trays of bedding plants (not all at once). In summer I look longingly at passing bikes, but generally I am sensible to how sensible I am being.

In a few years' time, Isobel's feet will be able to reach pillion pedals. Her friend Pierre, aged seven, has already promised to give her his leather jacket as soon as he grows out of it. Pierre has been riding pillion with his dad for years now.

I don't know how I feel about this. I'll be getting a new bike sooner or later. "When she's big enough" will I put the infant on the back? When is "when she's big enough"? Seven? Seventeen? Twenty-seven? Can I put her on a bike before she's old enough to understand and decide for herself about the risks?

If I decide that I can't, and then in 16 years she comes to me saying, "I want to ride motorbikes", what can I say?

I can't spoil her fun, not that particular fun that I've had so much of. And I want to have more of that fun, and share it with her.

Her father, who is not a biker, says he doesn't see why not, if I think it's all right. But, on the other hand, if she were to be hurt . . .

Facts and figures

☐ THE 1994 Harley Davidson XLH Sportster 1200: full retail price £6,295; five-speed gearbox (the 1988 was four-speed); belt-drive (the 1988 was chain-driven). Second-hand 1200cc Sportsters cost from about £4,500. Dealers include Three Cross Motorcycles, Woolsbridge Industrial Estate, 6 Old Barn Farm Road, Three Legged Cross, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 6SP (0202 824531); Fred Warr, 104-106 Waterford Road, London SW6 2EU (071-736 2934).

☐ THE Lancia Y10 is being discontinued in right-hand drive. The nearest comparable car is probably the Fiat Cinquecento SX from £5,598, which has sunroof, central locking and electric windows, and a smaller engine (899cc).



Lancia Y10 Touring

STEERING COLUMN

Richard Dunwoody

Richard Dunwoody, the National Hunt champion jockey, was grounded from his mounts in Cheltenham Gold Cup week because of a ban. But Dunwoody used the enforced break to drive off to the Swiss Alps in his beloved Porsche for a week's skiing.

How did you learn to drive?

I was nine years old on a tractor on a stud in Gloucestershire. I was riding horses before I could walk.

What was your first car?

A Marina coupe which I wrote off within six months.

What car do you drive?

A Porsche 968. For a very good reason. It's sponsored by Peter Petrovic of Lancaster Porsche, Cambridgeshire.

Do you enjoy driving?

Only short journeys; long ones are too tiring.

What is your dream car?

I would love a stretched limousine with the works: television, telephone, fax and, of course, a well-stocked bar.

Which is your most hated car?

I don't hate any cars. Just motorists who drive badly.

What is your worst habit in the car?

Driving 45,000 miles a year, I regularly lose my temper.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Motorists who sit in the fast lane doing 50mph.

What is the most unusual thing you've done in your car?

Piling 12 men and women into an XR3i at 4am after a beach party in Ireland. It was a very comfortable fit.

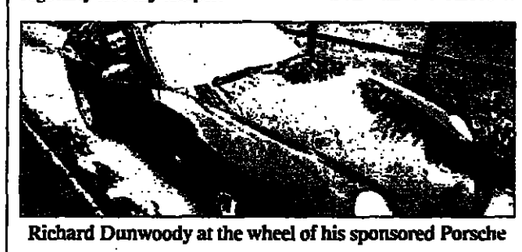
If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

No hesitation on this one. As a regular of the M25 car park, I would make it six lanes, both ways, on the day I took office.

What is your favourite/most hated car advertisement?

My favourite advertisement is the one with the super models. Naomi Campbell and Claudia Schiffer. Unfortunately, I can't remember which car they were advertising.

ANDREW PIERCE



Richard Dunwoody at the wheel of his sponsored Porsche

DRIVEN MAD

Range Rover

Brian Herrick's long-running love affair with Range Rovers has hit a deeply rocky patch. He is so fed up with his problem-plagued cars he plans to drive to Munich to plead personally with Bernd Pischetsrieder, the chairman of BMW, which now owns Land-Rover, for help.

The Somerset businessman calculates that he has spent more than £200,000 on a series of Range Rovers in recent years, suffering an engine fire, leaks, collapsed seats, gearbox failure, steering problems, jammed doors and paint problems.

This has not stopped Mr Herrick buying more Land-Rovers, but begs the question, why? He says: "It's tantamount to failure if we stop now. I just don't believe they cannot make a good vehicle."

V.F.

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George Plumptre, The Times gardener, visits a garden famed for magnolias, rhododendrons and camellias

Flowering trees of Cornwall

Few places escaped the vicious freeze in February, which checked progress in gardens throughout Britain. If anywhere got off lightly, it was southwest Cornwall. At the Trewithen garden, near St Austell, one of the country's most impressive early-spring displays has unfolded with only a few casualties among the most tender magnolias and rhododendrons.

The garden suffered only three degrees of frost on one night, and a two-day covering of snow. Bitter east winds checked the progress of flowerbuds, especially on the tree magnolias, for which Trewithen is famed, but most survived.

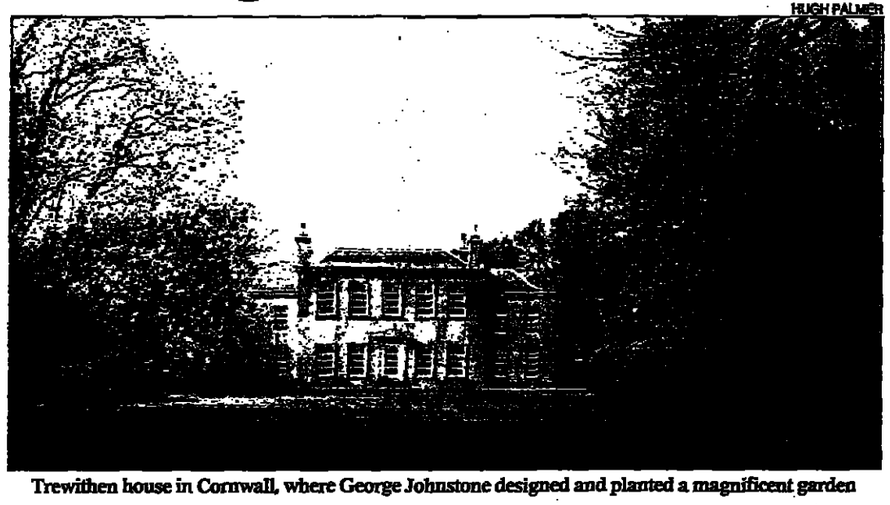
To visit Trewithen in March or April is a gardening education, when you can appreciate design on the grand scale, with evidence of the great age of plant-collecting. A woodland garden *par excellence*, it links with the house in one unforgettable vista. It exemplifies the grouping of flowering trees and shrubs that were introduced to Britain from China and the Himalayas through the 19th and early 20th centuries. Many of Trewithen's plants were grown from seed brought from China by the collectors E.H. "Chinese" Wilson, George Forrest and Frank Kingdon Ward. Others have been raised by crossing with these original seeds.

The garden was created by George Johnstone, who inherited the elegant 18th-century house and its estate in 1904. His enthusiasm for gardening was encouraged by the activities of his Cornish gardening neighbours, such as J.C. Williams of camellia fame, and by the need to open up the woods around Trewithen and introduce more horticultural interest. He began planting before 1914, but the greatest incentive came during the Second World War with a timber order from the Government involving the felling of 300 beech trees.

Johnstone used the removal of the trees to plant Trewithen's *tour de force*, the great glade which stretches away from the south side of the house for 300 yards, forming a grassy backbone for the areas of planting among the native beech woodland. He planned groups of trees and shrubs to frame the views away from and towards the house.

At any time of the year the vista is memorable, but perhaps more so in early spring. Deciduous varieties have still to come into leaf, and the framework of bare branches highlights the plants that are in flower, in particular the tree magnolias. No visitor will forget the towering mass of pinky-white, water-lily-like flowers that cover the garden's most prominent tree, *Magnolia mollicomata*. Planted by Johnstone in 1902, it is the oldest magnolia there, now 90ft tall, and a tribute to the collector Forrest.

HUGH PALMER



Trewithen house in Cornwall, where George Johnstone designed and planted a magnificent garden

This year, the winter weather has resulted in the main flush of magnolia flower coinciding with some of the garden's other highlights coming into their own. The camellias are almost comprehensive in their range and flower from mid-February into April. Among the quantities of *C. japonica, reticulata, saluensis* and *x williamsii*, Trewithen has a number of its own named plants, including the vigorous, semi-double "Trewithen Pink", and the more delicate "Elizabeth Johnstone", named after Johnstone's daughter, many of which can be bought through Trewithen's catalogue (see end for details).

Michael Taylor, Trewithen's head gardener, says that the key to success with camellias is to grow them in dappled shade, preferably north-facing. Full sun, especially in the early morning, shortens flowering and encourages the flowers to brown off. Emptying old tea leaves around the base encourages healthy flowering.

For the avant garde camellia grower, yellow-flowered varieties are the fashion of the future, and Trewithen produces "Jury's Yellow", which has creamy-white flowers with a central blush of fine yellow petaloids.

At the end of this month, the plant that many experts consider to be the finest rhododendron outside the native areas of China and the Himalayas will be coming into flower. Trewithen's *Rhododendron macabeanum* is 80 years old, yet its huge dome of large leaves is covered each year with hundreds of trusses of sulphur-yellow flowers.

The tree was introduced from China by Frank Kingdon Ward for one of Johnstone's neighbours, Sir Edward Bolitho, who created the garden of Trengwainton, near Penzance, and who gave Johnstone a seedling from the original plant.

Johnstone died in 1960, having continued to garden at Trewithen despite being confined to a wheelchair for the last 30 years of his life. He added to the garden's variety of plants without compromising on quality. An example of his wide-ranging taste is the outstanding *Ceanothus arboreus* "Trewithen Blue", whose large, powdery-blue flowers are a favourite sight in many gardens today. His adventurous work has continued after his death: in 1962 a new camellia seedling that he raised from J.C. Williams's best-known plant, "Donation", was named "Glenn's Orbit", because it flowered on the day the astronaut completed his circuit of Earth.

Johnstone's widow, Alison, his daughter Elizabeth, and grandson Michael Galsworthy have all ensured that Trewithen continues to be rewarding for any visitor.

● *Trewithen garden is open from March to September, 10am-4.30pm daily (except Sun), including bank holidays. Mar-Jun, adult £2.20, child £1; July-Sept, adults £2, child £1. For a catalogue, send an SEA with the equivalent of £1.25 in postage stamps to Trewithen, Grampound Road, near Truro, Cornwall (0726 882764).*

Gardens to visit

● *Caerhays Castle, Gorran, near Truro: open Mar 21-May 6, Mon-Fri, 11am-4pm. £2.50, under 16 £1.50. (0872 501144).*

● *Chyverton, Zelah, near Truro: By appointment, Mar-Jun (0872 540240).*

● *Trengwainton, Penzance: Mar-Oct, Wed-Sat inclusive, and bank holiday Mon, 10.30am-5.30pm. £2.50, child £1.25. (0736 63021).*

● *Trewidden, Penzance: woodland garden. Open all year, except bank holidays, Mon-Sat 8am-1pm, 2-5pm. £1.50, child 75p. (0736 62087).*

Monsters from my vegetable patch

Now anyone can grow a giant gourd — with a little help from a champion

STEPHEN DANIELS



Bernard Lavery with his 81½-inch gourd, which took the British record last year

Can you imagine what it is like trying to lift a pumpkin that weighs 160lb? I tried last year: it was like lifting a bag of water a yard across. With no handles. But by giant pumpkin standards that was a tiddler. Think what it would be like to move a 710lb monster — a job for a forklift truck. Pumpkins like that should have planning permission.

Growing giant vegetables gets into people's blood. It becomes a passion fuelled by competition, and a very serious business. Prize money can run to four figures. One man with such a passion is Bernard Lavery, who this month launches his own Worldwide Seed Club. Membership is free and Mr Lavery's seed of giant vegetable strains can be bought by members.

Here is the chance to grow a gourd as large as that featured on this page or a carrot nearly the height of a bungalow. Mr Lavery has world records for these (124lb and 202½ respectively) and many others. In 1990 he broke the world record for a zucchini courgette — at 64lb 8oz.

There is no doubt that if you want to grow giant vegetables, then you need seed from the giant strains. Thompson and Morgan (in association with Mr Lavery) offer a few giants in their catalogue, but nowhere near so many as the Seed Club, which promises to be a good place to buy from.

Even giant seed is not necessarily a recipe for success: many world records are held by American gardeners who have vastly different growing conditions to help them. Mr Lavery is proud that his seeds are bred and produced by him in the UK and therefore well suited to our weather conditions.

But the grand old men of giant vegetables know that getting the right seed is just the first part of the story. Perfect growing conditions then have to be provided if you want to produce champions. This may mean starting off seedlings under sodium lights to boost light levels and day length; or heating a greenhouse, expensively, early in the season, to extend the growing season.

Long vegetables such as carrots and parsnips may be grown in drainpipes strapped to the wall of the house, until the day of the show. Tricks such as these are what mark out the real size-men from gardeners who simply want to have a go at large vegetables.

Size, as they say, is not everything. There are many competition vegetable growers who sniff at the size-before-beauty approach. In their competitions quality counts just as much as girth.

Mr Lavery claims that his giant vegetables "will taste superb when freshly harvested, and before they become too old or mature". He may be right, but I would still grow more modestly sized vegetables for the kitchen. Yet I have eaten rings of champion leek, cut like slices off a log, and found them perfectly good.

A friend of mine grew a monster show cucumber called 'Zeppelin', from Thompson and Morgan, a few years ago. He crossed it the next year with 'King George', a large green cucumber from Robinson's. The result was an excellent vegetable, delicious, and truly crunchy.

There is a tiny member of the cucumber family from the Mediterranean called Ecballium, the "squirting cucumber". On a hot day a nudge from a passing foot will trigger the fully ripe, gherkin-like fruits, and bitter juice and seeds go flying as far as 40 feet. I hanker to discover whether it might be crossed with the 'Zeppelin'. It could produce a giant surprise.

STEPHEN ANDERTON

FOR DETAILS of Worldwide Seed Club membership, which is free, write to: Bernard Lavery, Baytree Nursery, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE12 6JU.

☐ Giant vegetable seed may be obtained from the main seed houses, including Thompson and Morgan, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU.

☐ Giant and exhibition vegetable seed is available from: W. Robinson and Sons, Sunnybank, Forton, near Preston, Lancashire, PR3 OBN; K. Foster Exhibition Seeds, Garden Cottage, Mulgrave Estate, Lythe, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO21 3RJ.

☐ The National Vegetable Society's championships for 1994 will be held at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Wisley, Surrey, on August 12, 13 and 14.

☐ The UK Giant Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Championships this year will be held from Friday, September 30, until Sunday, October 2, at Bernard Lavery's Baytree Nursery, Spalding.

WEEKEND TIPS

● *Begin sowing round-seed spinach varieties. A part-shaded position helps to prevent the plants running to seed.*

● *Sow seeds of outdoor varieties of radish.*

● *Transplant broad-bean seedlings that have been raised under glass.*

● *Cut back regal pelargoniums which have been overwintered in the greenhouse, and use pieces as cuttings for new plants by rooting them in individual small pots.*

GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON addresses horticultural questions

Q I have a small area of concrete beside the steps leading to my front door in London. I have now covered it in gravel, which looks kinder than bare concrete. If I put a layer of soil on top of the gravel, could I grow plants there?

A This is risky business. The chances are that the soil over a concrete base would become sour through lack of drainage and of worm action from below. In hot weather it would dry out rapidly and need constant watering.

I suggest that you either break up the concrete and add soil, or, better still, remove the concrete, having first checked that it is not the roof of a cellar. You can then make a soil bed in the normal way. An easier option would be to keep the gravel over the concrete and place large tubs or planters on it. Watering would be easier and more certain, and the effect will probably look smarter for a town garden.

In the warmth of inner London, camellias do well in tubs, their glossy, evergreen leaves looking well all year round, even when not in flower. You could have a pair of spiky cordylines, or tubs full of bedding plants. If you need something to survive holidays and lack of watering, try a form of spotted laurel, such as *Aucuba japonica* "Crotonifolia".

Q A lengthy stay in hospital prevented me from pruning my roses this winter. Is it too late now?

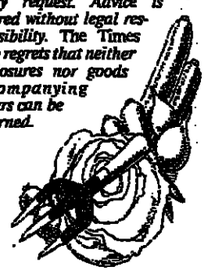
A It is almost never too late: until the end of the month, I would not hesitate to prune hybrid tea and floribunda roses. If you do not, the bushes will not be stimulated into making good, new growth low down this year. By next year, the bushes may start to look top-heavy. You can, of course, prune harder next year, but it may delay flowering. Pruning roses as late as April may seem cruel, but you will be cutting off shoots which have arisen from the wood to be removed. And yes, it will weaken the bushes and waste their energy. But I would still prune. Be gentle about it; take less out, and leave some of those shoots which have already begun to move. And make sure the bushes are properly fed to compensate for their wasted effort: there is nothing like old manure for roses, but a granulated rose feed will do the trick, too, preferably topped off with some garden compost.

Q I have a 25ft-tall silver birch on my lawn. I like everything about it, except the way the roots run above the surface of the lawn, making it bumpy to mow. And the grass beneath the tree is poor. May I cut out these surface roots?

A No. Birch is naturally a surface-rooting tree and you must expect some of the main roots to show. In the wild, the tree grows on poor, thin soils and derives nutrition from the surface. Cut out these surface roots and the tree could fall over. But there are ways of getting around the problem.

To stop the roots getting too prominent, give the ground under the tree a regular dressing of sieved compost in spring; this will also feed the grass. Depending on how much shade there is under the tree affecting grass growth in summer, you could try over-seeding, in spring, with a grass mixture designed for shade. As for mowing, if the roots are very proud of the soil you should not pretend that the grass is part of the sweep of the lawn. Keep this grass under control with a strimmer, with the height set at, perhaps, 4-5in, or cut it once a month with a rotary mower set high.

● *Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that no personal answers can be given and point out that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also regrets that neither enclosures nor goods accompanying letters can be returned.*



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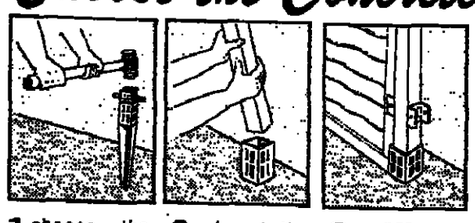
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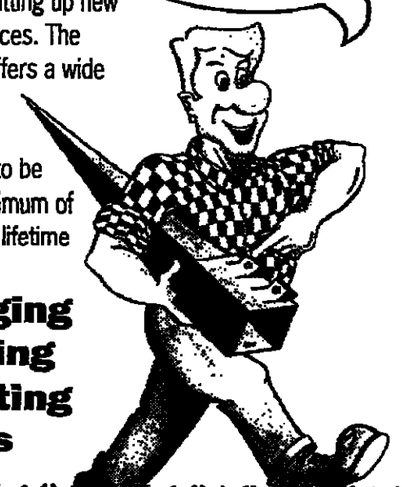
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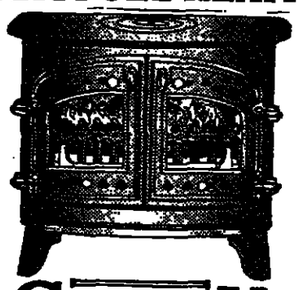
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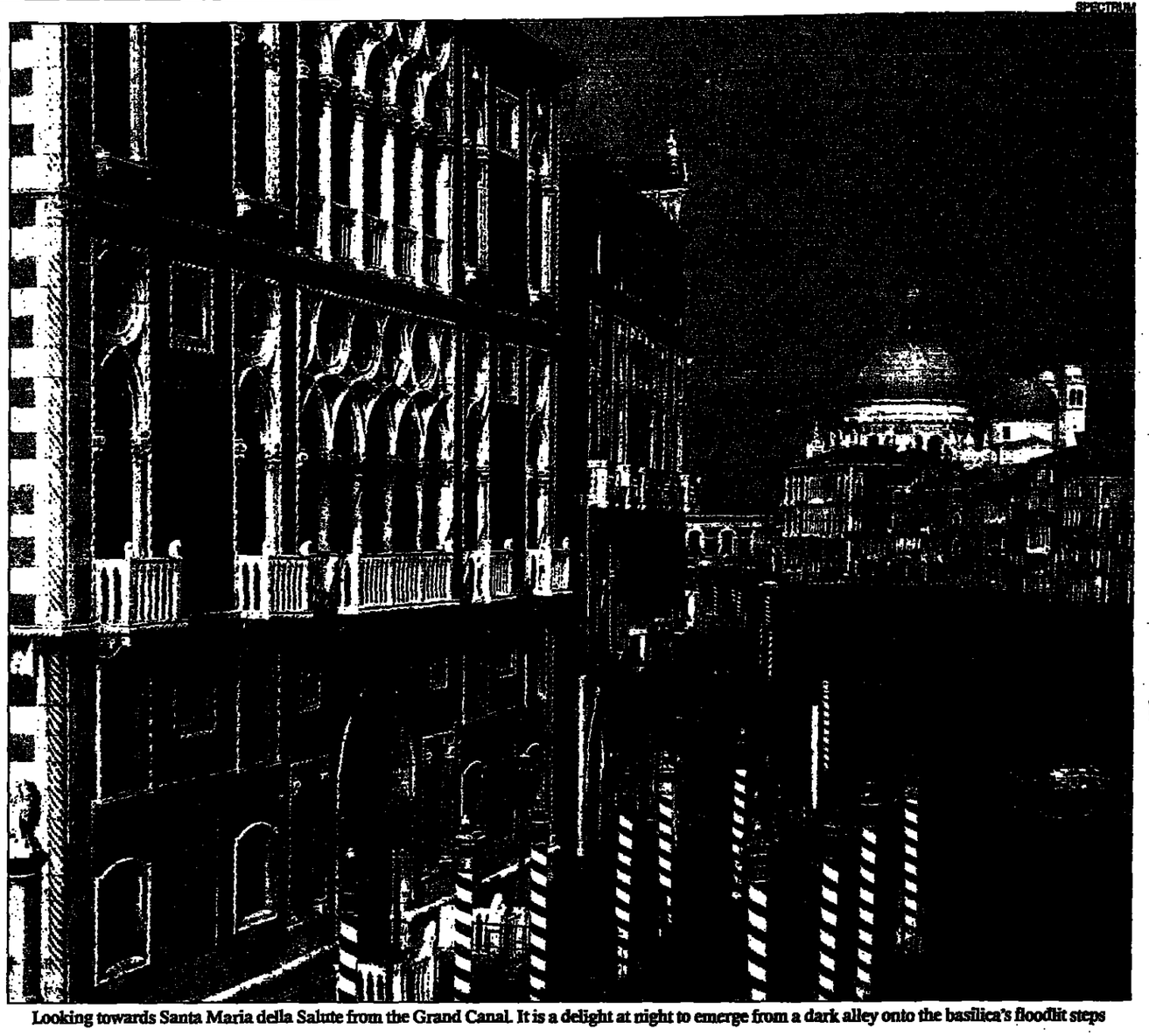
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GILL C. KENNY

A gondolier plies his trade: perfect, if expensive, transport for a summer picnic


SPECTRUM

Looking towards Santa Maria della Salute from the Grand Canal. It is a delight at night to emerge from a dark alley onto the basilica's floodlit steps

Picnics and palaces

An advantage of choosing Venice for regular family holidays is that the experience improves with every visit. The children grow out of licking ice-creams on boats and collecting little glass animals, and grow into open-air café society and concerts in churches.

Even getting to Venice can be an adventure. To the familiar alternatives of flying, taking trains, or motoring (with the choice of a headlong rush, or a dawdle between hotels) has been added a new way of getting there. Take the family car across to Calais (the floating department stores that the Stena-Sealink ferries have become are, in themselves, a lure for the young), put it and yourselves on French Railways' overnight Motorail to Innsbruck, and then drive over the Brenner Pass to Venice.

For a family of four, a first-class four-berth couchette compartment on the train is small but surprisingly comfortable, and there is one of those efficient (if expensive) Gril Express buffets down the corridor for dinner and breakfast. True joy begins next morning on waking among mountains, with torrents rushing beside the track and castles and churches perched on wooded crags.

On arrival at Innsbruck, simply get in the car and drive away. Crossing the Brenner, there is the choice of the autostrada and its tolls, or the open road, which is not only free but offers the lunchtime services of the wayside inns of the South Tirol, where, even though in Italy, it is tactful to try to order in German.

Last summer we broke this drive to Venice with a couple of nights on the shores of Lake Garda, choosing a small, two-star hotel with a swimming-pool in an olive grove outside Malcésine.

This spectacular lake is, it turned out, a favourite resort of Germans. They have chosen well because the lake offers swimming, sailing, windsurfing, water-skiing and cruising, while its surrounding mountains are for walking, climbing or just sitting in the sun outside cafés.

Malcésine — itself once Venetian — is ridiculously pretty, with enough smart boutiques and busy cafés to satisfy the most demanding young visitors. They can be left by the pool while their elders go exploring: to Riva, perhaps, with its extraordinary waterfall in a vertical cavern; or to the home of the writer d'Annunzio (now his museum, theatre and mausoleum); or to sinister Gardone Riviera and Salò, where Mussolini established his tiny but vicious Fascist republic after Italy surrendered in 1943. Best of all, is mild hill-walking to inoculate against the claustrophobia brought on in Venetian alleys after a few days without the option of walking over grass.

The journey to Venice is the choice of either fast autostrada (a new one is being built, taking a direct route from Trento to the Adriatic), or a mountain road twisting through a succession of views that distract the driver. Whichever way, lunch should be eaten in a square at Vicenza. One of the architectural splendours of Italy, it was the home-town of the architect Palladio.

Finally, a short run to Venice. The car must be parked just outside for the length of the stay. Be warned that visiting cars are directed into the new multi-storey car-park, which is more expensive and no more secure than the open one alongside. Then buy a tourist's *vaporetto* (river bus) pass (three days of travel for 20,000 lire, about £8.70), or a block of tickets to be used at will (be warned that ticket inspectors now patrol the *vaporetti*). Then head for the canals.

The first way to see Venice from a new perspective is to try a different hotel from normal. Even if you can afford them, avoid the grand hotels, if only because of the discontented faces of their rich guests. Instead, choose small hotels of character. Among so many are the Bucintoro, down by the Arsenale, where Whistler lodged and where every window commands the best view in Venice; the San Cassiano on the Grand Canal opposite the Ca' d'Oro, the Casa Frollo with its garden and La Residenza. Here breakfast is served in a vast, dim dining room on the *piano nobile* (the floor of state rooms) of a 15th-century *palazzo* built for the Gritti family, whose other palace is also an hotel but far grander.

The essence of Venice is that the expensive and the cheap can be equally enjoyable. We took a picnic with us to a flight of marble steps — reached through a maze of alleys and running down into the Grand Canal — and watched the *vaporetti* and gondolas pass by.

The afternoon was passed luxuriously as guests at the swimming pool of the Hotel Cipriani, on its own small island. The huge pool, mistakenly built in metres instead of feet and so 33 metres long, is the only one available to visitors in the entire city. The lightly salted water reflects the bell tower of San Giorgio on the neighbouring island. The pool is for hotel guests, of course, but if you plan to lunch there and feel extravagant, telephone to see if there are temporary passes available (usually not at weekends). A day in and around the pool will cost 65,000 lire (about £28) each; expensive, but there can be moments (notably in a hot summer) when money is no object.

For a summer evening picnic, consider making up a party of six and hiring a gondola for a two-hour voyage, perhaps down the length of the Grand Canal and into the basin of San Marco. A treat that is worth the expense. Take along those incomparable Venetian sandwiches and wine of the Veneto.

In season there is, of course, opera at the Fenice, where the cheaper seats, high in this jewel-box of an opera-house, give the best view. Also, watch for concerts and recitals in churches notably Vivaldi's church, the Pietà, and San Stae on the Grand Canal.

Several palaces present art exhibitions, amongst them the Grassi, Fortuny, Pesaro and Rezzonico. There are ample opportunities to see a favourite painting in a church, a pilgrimage, either to something famous like the Titian or the Bellini Madonnas in the Frari, or something appealing but little known, like Vivarini's Madonna in San Giovanni in Bragora.

Then there is food, for which Venice may not be renowned but which should be simple and enjoyable. Look out for little neighbourhood *trattorie*, eat there several times and be flattered by being seen as a friend by the staff. The still-fashionable ground floor of Harry's Bar need not be expensive if its memorable pasta and a jug of soave wine is ordered. The social theatricals are free.

So much pleasure is free in Venice. After dinner on the Dorsoduro bank of the Grand Canal, walk through the dark alleys to emerge suddenly on the floodlit steps of Santa Maria della Salute above the Grand Canal: a stage for grand opera with all Venice as audience. Or look by moonlight at the Bovolo spiral staircase, or the reflections of palaces in a calm canal.

There are two particular pleasures in returning by Motorail. One is that the car can be loaded with fresh fruit, vegetables and cheese from the Rialto markets, knowing that they will be in your own larder next day. The other is that departure from Venice is not the usual anti-climax. There is a five-hour drive through hills and mountains ahead and then an afternoon in Innsbruck before the train leaves for Calais. It is as if Innsbruck is vying with Venice: it cannot display water at the end of its streets but it has the Alps.

TOM POCOCK

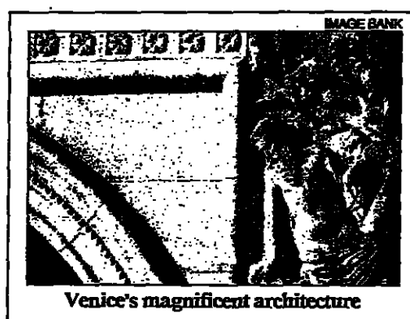
Getting to your gondola: Travel notes

● TOM POCOCK was a guest of French Railways from Calais to Innsbruck. The Motorail service runs every Tuesday between May 31 and September 6. Return fare for car and driver is £448: £68 for adult passengers and £34 for children aged 4-11. Further information 071-409 3518.

● On Stena Sealink ferries (0273 516699), the basic rates for a car and up to five people are £188 (March 31-July 7) and £220 (July 8-September 4): supplements for peak sailings are about £50.

● Among the experienced tour operators offering package holidays are Time Off and Italiatour. Time Off (071-235 8070) offers four nights at a three-star hotel for £291 (low season) and £391 (high season).

● The grandest hotels include the Grimi Palace (010 3941 794611) and the Cipriani (010 3941 5207744). In the middle range are the San Cassiano (010 3941 721033) and the Accademia (010 3940 5237846). Smaller hotels include the Bucintoro (010 3941 5223240) and La Residenza (010 3941 5285315).


IMAGE BANK

Venice's magnificent architecture

Recommended reading

● *Venice*, one of the sumptuously illustrated and beautifully produced Everyman Guides (£16.99).

● *Venice*, by Sheila Hale (American Express/Mitchell Beazley (£9.99, updated new edition).

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BRIAN CLARKE



An American angler and river guide with a 15lb sea trout caught on the Rio Grande. With big fish hooked daily, only 20-pounders are worth writing home about

DUNCAN STEWART



Some brown trout are a puzzle. While most are content to live in rivers and lakes, a few take the urge to migrate to sea, like salmon. And, like the salmon, vibrant and silver, they return to the rivers of their birth to spawn.

No one knows why some brown trout behave in this way, but then no one knows much about sea trout at all. The only certainty is that such fish exist on some rivers in numbers and that when they spill in from the oceans again, forging arrowheads through the shallows, they present anglers with one of the most exciting challenges the sport can offer.

To all the mysteries that surround the sea trout, a new one has been added. It is the discovery that one river in particular produces sea trout so large that they draw anglers to the end of the world to catch them. That is what the Rio Grande, in Tierra del Fuego, is doing. The sea trout of this Argentinian river, on the coccyx of the Andean spine, make all other sea trout seem as fishes from Lilliput.

In Britain, the sea trout are typical of those of most places: they average about 1lb and a nice one weighs 2lb. A five-pounder is a fish to write home about. On the Rio Grande, the sea trout average 10lb, a nice one 13lb and postmen will be untroubled for anything less than 20lb. It is fish such as these that are drawing anglers from North and South America especially, but increasingly from Europe, to this place of wild and spare beauty.

Plains as close-cropped and brown as summer fairways reach out for the skylines on three sides of Kau Tapen lodge, the centre from which the best of the fishing is managed: the Andes fill the horizon on the fourth side. No trees grow. An unceasing wind blasts. Condors turn in wide circles making silence, llama-like guanacos stand edgily and stare. Through it all the Rio Grande insinuates a pewtered path to the horizon.

I spent six days at Kau Tapen, day and twilight confused. But I caught 23 sea trout. They included three 13-pounders, four 15-pounders and a 17-pounder, a fish two or three times the size of the average salmon that most people see.

The first dashing run of one fish had me stumbling and splashing 150 yards downstream, in its wake. Another fish leapt clean on to the distant bank as it was hooked, took the measure of its surroundings then hurled itself back into the water to begin the fight on more even terms.

On my last night, as I was wading chest-deep, a 13-pounder leapt high above my head, trailing rubies behind it through the red setting sun.

In spite of their size, the trout were taken on a single-handed rod of only medium weight. All of them, as with all the fish in Kau Tapen, were returned unharmed to the water and were nursed, head up into the current, until their strength returned and their tails swept our hands aside.

Fishing for sea trout is not the only game-fishing experience that Argentina has to offer. The week before, I fished in north-west Patagonia for brown trout, and for wild rainbow trout. I stayed at two lodges on two different, vast *estancia* — San Humberto and Quemquemtreu — both close to the Chilean border.

The San Humberto lodge has fishing on the Malleo river. I did not catch this great dry fly river, or its fish, at their peak: a long, cold winter and vast floods — both at the time of our summer — had held the season back. But one night, I saw as awesome a rise of big trout as I have seen anywhere in the world. The river heaved and boiled with fish taking flies from the surface at dusk.

I took eight or ten on small dry flies, fishing in the rose-water light of the setting sun, downstream from a snow-capped volcano almost as conical as Fuji itself.

Quemquemtreu is a working ranch in the true Western style: 200,000 acres of big skies and horizons, of corrals and cattle, dirt-roads and dust. The sun burned like a brasier by mid-afternoon. Small creatures scuttled from shade to shade. *Gauchos*, as dark and limber as the horses they rode, picked their way down rock gullies like extras from a film. Amid it all, rivers fed by the Andes surprised.

In that improbable place, I caught fish on the fly: good but not spectacular fish. I took them from the tumbling Quemquemtreu, the sliding Coleufu, and the many-channelled Collon Cura that wound across the desert like unravelled braid.

They were memorable days amid an immeasurable landscape, but two in particular I can see even now: the days when, with a guide and an American law professor from the same lodge, I floated miles downstream on an inflatable raft, casting to fish hard in to the shore. They were days in a time capsule, up-anchored from the real world.

Yet, the fisherman in me still needs to say it, no single day will live as long in memory as my best day with the sea trout; no sight was more imprinting than that last, high leap.

BRIAN CLARKE

● *The author visited Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego as a guest of Frontiers, 14 Old Bond Street, London W1 (071-493 0798). He flew to Buenos Aires via Madrid (with Iberia) and via Rio de Janeiro (with Aerolineas Argentinas). Internal flights were with Austral, Argentina's domestic airline.*

The Patagonia-Tierra del Fuego package costs $8,140 (£5,460), from Buenos Aires. Flights from London to Buenos Aires and within Argentina cost an additional $1,800 (£1,210). Packages from Buenos Aires to Patagonia alone cost $3,550 (£2,380). Packages from Buenos Aires to Tierra del Fuego alone cost $4,590 (£3,080).

● *A hat and factor 30 sunscreen are essential for Patagonia, and sweaters and wind-cheaters for Tierra del Fuego.*

● *Brian Clarke used a single-handed AFTM-7 trout rod in both places, but fitted an extension handle for the sea trout. He found chest waders essential everywhere.*

How to find a fishing holiday

ANGLING breaks are a fast-growing sector of the specialist holiday market. Almost always they focus on fly-fishing, the money end of the sport.

In addition to the spectacular saltwater and freshwater game fishing of the Americas, the Caribbean, South Africa and New Zealand, spring editions of the angling magazines carry advertising for the (sometimes) excellent salmon fishing in Russia, Norway and Iceland. The reality, however, is that much of the best fly-fishing in Europe is still to be had in Britain and Ireland, and it is here that the bulk of the holiday market remains.

First-class salmon fishing is hard to come by, but fishing with the chance of a salmon or two attracts thousands to holidays on hotel waters. *Fishing Forays*, the best of the reference books listing game fishing hotels in Britain and the Irish Republic, is available from Kensington West Publications (0434-609933). The Scottish Tourist Board, actively promoting its wild brown trout, has just produced a booklet of some of the better fishing/accommodation packages available (031-332-2433).

The Association of Stillwater Game Fishery Managers (0676-22754), representing the principal lake trout fisheries in England and Wales, publishes a list of all its members' waters and is running a National Beginners' Week, aimed especially at women anglers, from May 31 to June 6.

Fishing on the chalk streams of the South is hard to find and not cheap, but much of that which is available can be booked through The Rod Box, Winchester (0962-883600).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 31

MENSION

(b) The action of measuring, adaptation of the Latin *mēnsiōnem*, noun of action of *mētiri* (participle stem *mēns-*) to measure; Phillips, 1658: "Mensuration, the same as Mension; or measuring."

MACKENBOY

(a) An Irish spurge (*Euphorbia hiberna*) said to have powerful purgative properties, an adaptation of the Irish *meacán buidhe* (*an t-sleibhe*) yellow root of the mountain: "Mackenboy or Mackinboy, a kind of Spurge with a knotty Root, growing naturally in Ireland, which being but carried about one, causeth the party to go often to stool."

ASCESIS

(b) The practice of self-discipline, from the Greek *askēsis* exercise, *askein* to exercise; Auden, *For Time Being*, 1944: "The vision/ That plain men can predict through an Ascesis of their senses."

DOWITCHER

(a) Any of several long-billed waders (genus *Limnodromus*) of North America, belonging to the family Scolopacidae and resembling the sand-piper, especially the red-breasted snipe (*Limnodromus griseus*), from the Iroquois name: "The long-billed dowitchers are very much like a large snipe, of a pale cinnamon colour."

TRAVEL TIPS

Champagne Guide to Paris (£9.99) includes some 600 write-ups on bistros, brasseries and hotels, by *arrondissement*.

☐ IMPERIAL Airlines (0444 401234) registered in Bermuda, is launching a long-haul executive charter service from UK airports in July. Using McDonnell Douglas DC8s, seating 88 in a first-class style layout (with a cocktail bar), the airline hopes to attract incentive groups and businessmen.

☐ UNTIL the end of this month, Travelpack (061-707 4404) has scheduled flights to New York from Heathrow or Manchester for £199 return (plus £20 tax). Once there, you are probably safer than you thought. According to the FBI, you are less likely to be a crime victim in the Big Apple than in 17 other American cities.

☐ A NEW service from Leeds/Bradford to Dublin was launched by BA Express (0345 222111) this week. Operated by City Flyer, mid-week fares are £99 return.

☐ ON YOUR bike. Sixty-five UK firms offering cycle holidays are in The Bicycle Association's *Holidays '94* booklet. Send a 38p sae to The Bicycle Association, Starley House, Eaton Road, Coventry CV1 2FH.

☐ SRI LANKA for 12 nights costs £489, bed and breakfast, with Kuoni (*Limited Editions* brochure, 0306 740888). Travel between April 14 and June 16.

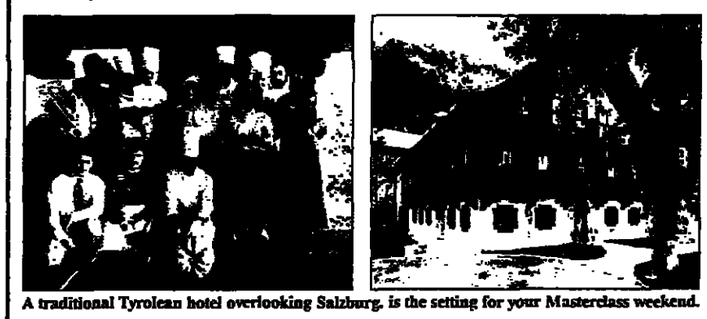
☐ AIR France's Airbuses are becoming like the number 13 bus. A scheduled ticket is no guarantee of a seat. On the London-Paris route, for example, airplanes are routinely overbooked by up to 10 per cent to account for no-shows. The later you leave it to check in, the more chance you have of being bumped. Get there early.

☐ HELP save Prague. Sir Georg Solti will conduct the Prague Symphony Orchestra, and The Prague State Opera will perform *Aida* and *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, as part of a musical celebration to raise money to restore the city. From June 2-6. Abercrombie & Kent (071-730 9600) has two tours, costing from £815 to £1,092 plus a minimum donation of £1,000 to the Prague Heritage Fund.

☐ EGON Ronay's *Mumm*

SUSAN GROSSMAN

THE TIMES
TRAVEL·OFFER



A traditional Tyrolean hotel overlooking Salzburg, is the setting for your Masterclass weekend.

Fly away for a taste of the Tyrol.

Herbert Lackner is one of Austria's most celebrated chefs. He has cooked for many of Europe's Royals and is now head chef at the Romantikhotel Die Gersburg Alm, a traditional Tyrolean hotel set among the mountains and meadows overlooking the city of Salzburg. Herr Lackner is at present cooking at the St James Court Hotel in London's Buckingham Gate as part of their Austrian Food Festival. A series of three Times masterclasses/dinners have been arranged with him for March 24th-26th.

For those readers who would like to enjoy the Austrian Masterclass in situ, a special gourmet weekend has been organised at Herr Lackner's hotel. The schedule for the weekend is as follows:

Friday June 24th

Leave Heathrow at 1pm on Lufthansa flight for Frankfurt connecting with Tyrolean Airways flight to Salzburg. (Arrival time in Salzburg 5.40pm). VIP welcome cocktail at Salzburg Airport. Arrive at Die Gersberg Alm at around 7pm. At 8pm a 4 course dinner will be served in the restaurant, accompanied by sitar music.

Saturday June 25th

A gastronomic buffet breakfast. 9.30am An English speaking guide will take guests on a Salzburg Sightseeing Tour. 12.30pm A 3 course lunch in the Red Salon of the "Hotel Österreichischer Hof". Transfer to: Die Gersberg Alm. 3pm "Strudel Demonstration" by Chef Herbert Lackner showing the skills involved in making various different types of strudel, followed by a wine tasting held at a local vineyard. 7pm Light snack. 8.30pm Classical concert in the City. Supper in the hotel's cosy Stüber restaurant.

Sunday June 26th

Buffet Breakfast. 11.30am Musical farewell and light snack. Transfer to Salzburg Airport and fly, via Frankfurt, to Heathrow, arriving at 5.55pm.

Inclusive price of the weekend is £445 per person sharing a twin-bedded room. The price includes flights, and transfers, all food and drink. Single person supplement is £40.

For full details of this Times Travel Offer, please Telephone 071 873 5005 or Fax 071 873 5008.

The Times Travel Offer, c/o Cox & Kings Travel Ltd, St. James Court, Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF.

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DAY 10 Disembark at Arnhem fly Amsterdam-London.

**The itinerary for our 2 May departure is in reverse order.*

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SWAN HELLENIC P&O



ATOL 0387

ZAMBIAN SAFARI: walking in the Luangwa Valley, **Simon Barnes** has an unforgettable encounter

Face to face with the king of beasts

CHRIS BREEN, WORLD SAFARI



Lion in a lion-colour land: the implacable yellow stare says come no closer. "To experience such a moment just once is to become an addict. Addicted to lions; addicted to wilderness; addicted to a continent"

LUCY PAWSON

Africa: and first a piece of advice. Don't go. Go *toujours* to Provence or *sempre* to Tuscany, because Africa is dangerous. Not in what the place can do to you physically, but in what it does to your mind. Just one dose is likely to be the start of a life-long addiction: a craving for Africa that can be satisfied only by ever-more-massive doses.

If you must go to Africa, make sure you do not do it properly. In some places you can spot a lion kill from miles away by noting the gathering vultures. Avoid such places. Go instead to the spots where the gathering flocks of the species "Nissan irvan" are the surest indicator of hidden cats. Make the experience as superficial as possible; take a few snaps, buy the T-shirt and come home.

Whatever you do, do not make the mistake of seeking deep wilderness. And if you do, do not, *walk*. Face to face with wilderness: face to face with lion. These things are not to be laughed off.

Four years ago, I left a piece of my heart in the Luangwa Valley in Zambia, and I go back there as often as I can to re-find it. I spent two months there last year, as a self-imposed sabbatical. One hut, one camp, one bend of the mighty Luangwa river. Several people asked if I got bored — but only people who had not made the mistake of going to Africa, to Zambia, to Luangwa.

I have just been there again, on a trip as memorable as anything I have done in Luangwa before. Luangwa Valley: a southern extension of the Great Rift. Luangwa River: a tributary to the great Zambezi. South Luangwa National Park: the nearest you can get to Eden.

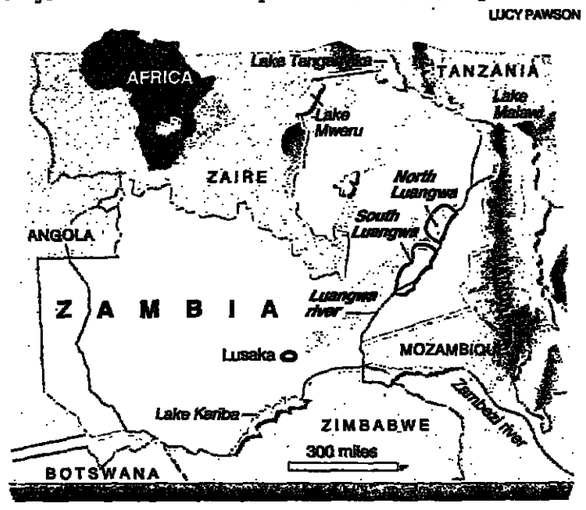
At the heart of the trip was a six-day walking safari, moving from camp to camp along the Mupamadzi River, tributary to the Luangwa. It is hard to get so remote so quickly: this part will see a total of 60 tourists this year. I have seen twice that number around a single lion elsewhere in Africa.

I saw lion, this time, too. On foot. A honeymooning pair lay couched in an area of long grass. This is technically known as adrenalin grass: it is at least 6ft high — you can't see through it or round it or over it. You can hide a herd of buffalo in there, and a pride of lions as well. Try walking through it: few things are more capable of stimulating the adrenal gland.

But we stalked the lion as close as was smart. Sandford Moshona was the scout: he has the ticklish job of getting as close to lion as possible without being eaten. He carries a gun, but the plan is never to be in the position of firing so much as a warning shot, still less a shot with lethal intention.

A leonine honeymoon is a dramatic and protracted business. The pair, maned lion and oestrus lioness, leave the pride and go their own way, for a few days, sometimes as much as three weeks. The pace of the business is phenomenal. One observer counted 86 copulations in 24 hours; 157 in 55 hours.

The pair were not best pleased at being disturbed. The male, sensing our presence, turned and glared through the grass: an irritated lion in lion-coloured land. The pair then loped off to seek a little more privacy for their pell-mell honeymoon.



I met more lion a few days later, again while on foot. For 15 minutes they did not know we were there — an eerie sense of privilege. Two lionesses, two cubs, a couple of hundred yards off. They were in fine spirits that morning, because they had just eaten. One of the cubs was carrying a bone, just like a dog. The other cub performed a series of ambushes on a lioness, leaping on his mother or aunty, and then rolling over. The mother or aunty batted him about with a big, tolerant paw. A happy family scene in dawn sunlight: one of those first-morning-of-the-world mornings that seem to come every 24 hours in Luangwa.

And then the lead lioness caught a whiff of human, turned, and yellow-eyed us across the open ground between. Her eyes locked into mine. Implacable yellow stare: she sat, fixing this small, intrusive party with her gaze. Stand-off. She radioed a message to us: come no closer to us, and we will come no closer to you. Nothing in life compares with these moments. To experience such a moment just once is to become an addict. Addicted to lions; addicted to wilderness; addicted to a continent.

Why walk? You can get much closer in a vehicle. You can take much better pictures from a vehicle, too. I have seen lions from vehicles hundreds of times; always with great delight. But the rarer times when I have seen them while on foot have been unforgettable. You can take great snaps from a vehicle, if you like taking snaps. But every encounter I have had with lions on foot I can also see any time I want. It is the vividness of the experience that counts, not the quality of the photograph. All experience of the bush is qualitatively different when you are on foot. You are not an intruder from another planet, roaring about the bush in a noisy, smelly machine, some alien being that the animals simply cannot understand.

You meet the beasts of the bush as mammal to mammal. Herbivores will maintain their flight distance from you, just as they would from a strolling lion. They like to keep you in sight; at a safe distance. Eland, twin-horned innocents, keep almost a quarter-mile from you: graceful impala will, in certain circumstances, tolerate your passing at 50 yards, if you do not walk towards them.

And up in these remote places in the park, some animals will push forward to get a better look at you. This is innocence of a high degree. A bunch of wart hogs gaped at us; a trio of hyenas dared each other to get within a cricket-pitch of us.

Sometimes, I think my favourite time in the bush is the night. Every night is a tumult of strange sounds. The honeymooning lions roared out a long nocturnal duet on the night following that moment of *coitus interruptus*. The next night, a pride of 11 gave us their full proud chorus: ground-shaking bellows that echoed along the Mupamadzi.

Owls punctuate the night; the radiophonic effects of bats and crickets are a steady background. And then the wild whoop of hyena: a sound designed to affect the hairs on the back of your neck.

I set a new personal best for proximity to a hyena in full whoop: about 6ft. A pair of these strange, spooky beasts — in direct light they seem to have no eyes — got into camp, and investigated its possibilities, muttering to each other in silly yammering noises. One of them was inspired to give his wild, whooping call: a sound that had every one sitting to attention, wide-eyed.

Then a couple of wild and excited giggles, and they were off, telling each other what bold hyenas they had been. It was, in its unquiet way, a night of utter hilarity.

But no individual anecdote will ever tell you what the bush — the real bush, the real bush experience — is like. I could boast about my bird list, a distinctly useful 127, including Madagascar squacco heron and orange-breasted waxbill. I could go on at length about the martial eagle that passed overhead at 10ft. But really, walking in the bush is not a matter of high spots: it is a question of — well, everything really.

It is simply, or complicatedly, one of the most profoundly satisfying experiences a person can undergo. To put it another way: if you have a taste for cricket, a mobile safari is more like going to a Test match than a Sunday League thrash. If you care for books, you will find a walking safari more like reading *Ulysses* than James Bond. It is, perhaps, the difference between a honeymoon and a one-night stand. I am sure that is right: you ask the lions.

☐ *Simon Barnes travelled courtesy of African Explorations, which offers varied itineraries. For details, call 0993 822443, or write to the company at Holwell Manor Barn, Holwell, Burford, Oxfordshire OX18 4JS. The cost of a comparable 10 to 14-day trip for a couple would be about £2,500 per person (single person, with supplements, £3,500).*

☐ *Robin Pope Safaris, which can be contacted through African Explorations, has two permanent camps, both in dramatic locations.*

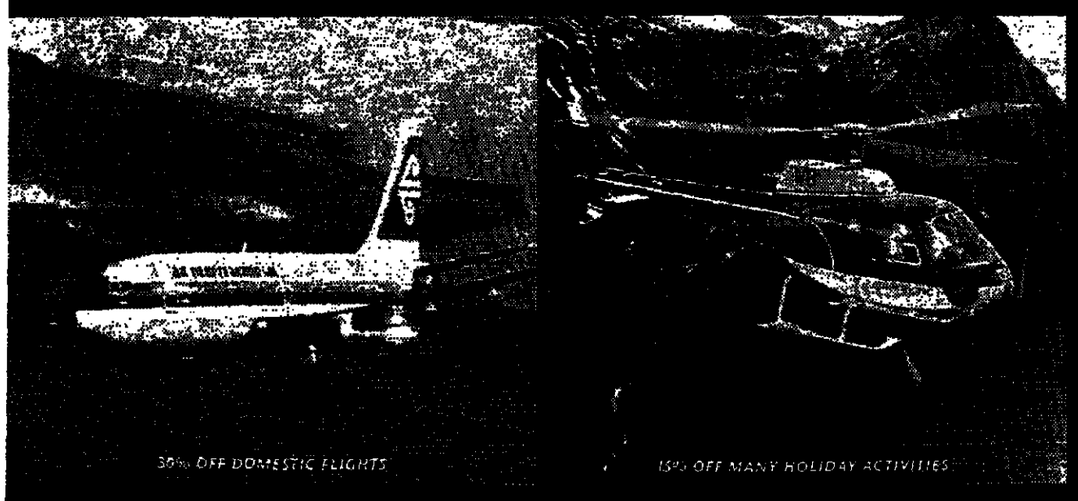
☐ Simon Barnes writes: *The mobile safari on the Mupamadzi lasts six days. It gives you wilderness in vast doses, without the feeling of austerity. The safari involves three different camp sites. Camp is moved by the professional staff, with the help of a four-wheel-drive lorry. There are large tents and beds with sheets and pillow-cases. The camp has a shower; the food is remarkable for both quality and quantity. The camp has everything, including a gas-powered fridge to keep the beers cold.*

The walking takes up around eight hours of the day, but it is not in any way arduous. The pace is leisurely, because there is far too much to stop and look at.

My trip also involved an overnight stay at Lilayi Lodge, on a game ranch just outside Lusaka. I stopped briefly at Tongabezi, a pleasant camp near the Victoria Falls, and spent my final night at Lechwe Lodge, 90 minutes or so from Lusaka. This is a delightful spot on the banks of the Kafue River. It offers fishing, walking among the herbivores of the game ranch, and horse riding. Riding through a herd of sable antelope is memorable.

Aeroplane schedules to Zambia often require a night in Lusaka: I suggest you stay at Lechwe Lodge.

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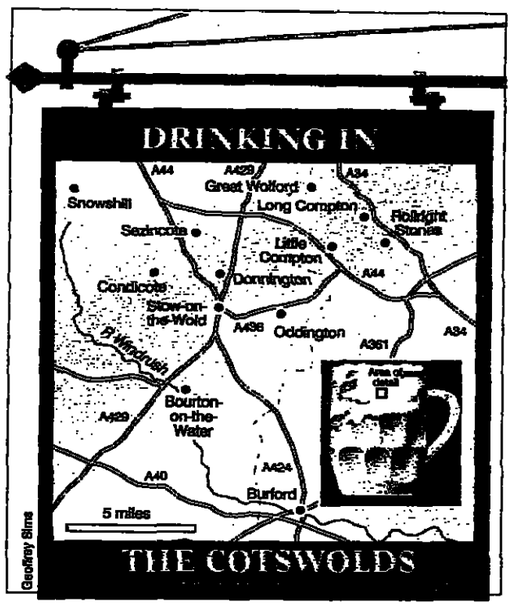
DISCOVER NATURE'S LITTLE SECRETS.

COTSWOLD BREAK: step off the well-beaten tourist track and delve into unspoilt pubs and villages

A heady brew in the heart of England



The beautiful village of Snowshill, Gloucestershire, lies in a hollow in the uplands. Near by is Snowshill Manor, once owned by Catherine Parr



The worst part about a good thing is how easily it can go wrong. I blame William Morris and his artsy-craftsy East End refugees in the last century for corrupting the Cotswolds. They meant well, of course, caring for the heart of England, but their legacy has been coachloads of tourists clogging the arteries of such showpiece villages as Bourton-on-the-Water.

Bourton today is an abomination: the scale model of the village has more life about it than the real thing, with its twee bridges, Beatrix Potter souvenir shops and pubs that have mortgaged their soul to sell warm beer and burgers to people who would rather be windsurfing on the artificial lakes. This is not what the English countryside is about.

To appreciate this magnificent part of Britain, it is wiser to head for the outer rim of the Cotswolds. Some of the most beautiful countryside lies astride the A34, from Oxford to Stratford-upon-Avon, and by a happy coincidence, so do some of the best pubs.

The Fox and Hounds at Great Wolford is an inn dating from Elizabethan times which boasts the worst-painted pub sign in Britain: a sort of toddler's impression of an emaciated Basil Brush. But the food is as excellent as the range of beers, including fearsome brews such as Hobgoblin from Witney, stocked by landlord David Harker, who has a penchant for getting his guests involved in amateur dramatics. I once found myself drafted into the role of Private Eye Dick Barton-on-the-Heath, our host's adaptation of the famous detective to the name of his telephone exchange. It certainly keeps the coach parties at bay.

Just south of Barton and Wolford, the rolling countryside sweeps up to a windy ridge that forms a natural border between Warwickshire and Oxfordshire. The minor road that runs along here has been used since the dawn of British history; it was already well-trodden by the time the armies of Charles I and Oliver Cromwell pursued each other up and down it.

The oldest relics are the three groups of Rollright Stones. The stone circle known as the King's Men lies on private land, and visitors are charged a nominal 20p a visit, although children are free if they promise to count them (legend, and my own family's experience, decrees that no two who count separately will ever agree on the number). A little away are the Whispering Knights, the remains of a barrow grave, and across the road stands the single monolith of the King's Stone.

The names are based on the local superstition that the stones are petrified figures who met their fate because of their leader's presumptuousness when challenged by a witch with the words: "Step forward and if Long Compton thou canst see, King of England shalt thou be." Unfortunately, he was not tall enough. Had he advanced a yard or so further he might well have caught a glimpse not only of the village but of the Red Lion hostelry. However, it might have led him to make a hasty decision because, although the Red Lion is a passable pub, by far the better hostelry is the identically-named establishment at Little Compton. This Red Lion not only serves steaks that bleed when you stab them, but also boasts Donnington's bitter, a secret treasure of England.

Donnington's, available in both BB and the stronger SB varieties, is produced by a small family brewery that not only makes some of the best beer I have ever tasted but does so on one of the most beautiful sites, nestling amid cherry trees by a mill stream. And to confound the tourists further, Donnington's brewery is not in the village of Donnington but a couple of miles down the road, near Condicote. The brewery does not encourage visitors, but almost next door is a trout farm which is more than happy to welcome passers-by, either to try their hand at fly-fishing in a well-stocked private lake or, the more efficient option, of having a few scooped out of a tank and electrocuted to order.

This is fox-hunting country, too. If you don't like the hunt, don't talk about it. Local pub names testify to the traditions. The Fox at Oddington (off the A436 heading from the Rollrights towards Stow-on-the-Wold) serves crusty pies and game with Hook Norton bitter, a genuine amber nectar to put Antipodean advertising slogans to shame. But there is a sobering sight a few hundred yards away, in the strange silence of Oddington's isolated church with its fragile early mediaeval fresco — a "Doom" painting of sinners roasting in Hell. It is the more poignant when you know the church is all that remains of an older village wiped out by the Black Death.

There are cheerier visions of more recent history not far away, however. Just beyond Donnington stands Sezincote, begun in 1798 by a surveyor of the East India company. The country house is a grand flourish resembling the later Brighton Pavilion, and the garden is renowned. But over the rising hills lies my favourite Cotswold village, Snowshill, crooked in a hollow of the windy (and in winter eponymously snowy) uplands.

The footpath that starts by a bridleway at the lower end of the village leads across the sweep of the hills opposite, curving by Brockhampton Farm and back over the stream at the bottom of the valley up to Snowshill Manor, a rambling Tudor house once owned by Catherine Parr, last of Henry VIII's wives. It was left to the National Trust in 1951 by the eccentric architect and scholar Charles Paget Wade, who had filled it with a wonderful collection of antiques and curios, from Japanese armour to model ships and sedan chairs. He never had electric light installed and lived in an adjoining cottage, sleeping in a cupboard bed. But no doubt even he was tempted to nip out to the Snowshill Arms. After all, it does serve Donnington's.

PETER MILLAR

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If you are the type of traveller who prefers a rigid schedule and a totally planned day, then, these are probably not the trips for you. If, however, you enjoy encountering the unexpected and impromptu in the company of enthusiastic and knowledgeable leaders together with travellers of a shared passion then our Arctic visits this Summer, could be just what you are seeking.

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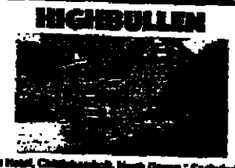
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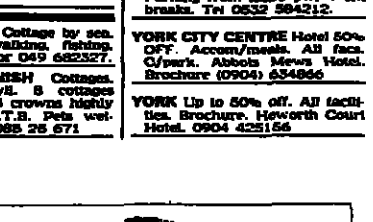
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ATTRACTIVE working girl young 43 likes travel theatre being wined and dined and pampered with GSOH lots of TLC to give to a special handsome knight in shining armour who will be prepared to indulge me in the above. You must be loving and caring with GSOH, financially secure, honest and loyal. Genuine replies only with photo please to Box No 6692

ATTRACTIVE stylish well travelled warm fun-loving lady, young 44 (daughter 6) London based longs for articulate fit high-calibre unattached professional N/S man 40+ to put some zing into her life now & maybe forever. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6508

ATTRACTIVE, intelligent professional woman seeks Oxford Don or similar intellectual soulmate for stimulating conversations over a bottle of wine. Enjoys literature and cultural pursuits, countryside, antiques, interior design. Please Reply to Box No 6662

ATTRACTIVE Blonde Professional lady late thirties very varied interests coloured bright caring sincere & fun to be with seeks chivalrous sophisticated confident man 35-48 for sincere romance. Photo appreciated South-West area. Please Reply to Box No 6578

ATTRACTIVE, sensitive, professional, postgrad woman, 39, liberal-minded Christian, wide interests including cinema, music, countryside, psychoanalysis and Greece, seeks intelligent, caring, n/s man with s.o.h. Please Reply to Box No 6674

ATTRACTIVE, warm, sensual, green eyed brunette. Loves socialising, theatre, music, keeping fit, country walks and reading. Seeks similar, tallish, honest, funny, attractive, kind, romantic, forties gentleman. South West London, photo appreciated. Box No 6546.

ATTRACTIVE blonde graduate slim petite feminine 30 something seeks intelligent successful man up to 48yrs. Photo appreciated. London/South. Please Reply to Box No 6411

ATTRACTIVE feminine early 40s & fun. Ex-wife seeks genuine friendship with gentleman. Interests include hunting, racing etc. London/Wilts. Box 6460

ATTRACTIVE prof slim lady 30 seeks a similar lovely man to enjoy sport travel and romance SOH essential, based Oxford. Please reply with photo to Box No 6609

ATTRACTIVE caring slim female late 40's 5'5" varied interests seeks romantic cultured male 44-56 to enjoy life with. Please Reply to Box No 6669

ATTRACTIVE professional woman forties, divorced, seeks new man in her life. Box No 6618

AUSTRIAN lady vivacious slim fit 53 enjoys music, theatre, tennis wishes to meet gentleman. GSOH Photo plse Box 6536

BEAUTIFUL blonde intelligent Cinderella 31 searching S.E. for a handsome prof Prince Charming 30's. Photo app. Reply with letter Box No 6436

BEWITCHING vivacious blonde artistic and sporty London based. Seeks lively intelligent Jewish male 48-58 who is looking for that special person. Please Reply to Box No 6432

BRIGHT brunette graduate, N/S, young 60s, articulate & of warm personality. Fond of the arts, travel, golf, walking, good food & wine. Seeks fit, cultured, professional man of good background & similar interests to share life's pleasures. Box 6842

CAN it begin with you seeing this? I want to exchange my active social life for a shared happy one. If you are bright, fun & fifties, I would love to hear from you. London. Please reply to Box No 6621

LARGE brainy London lady seeks tall erudite lover. Please Reply to Box No 6568

CATHOLIC Irish-Hungarian, 53, opera & dog lover seeks kind and courteous relaxed traveller for last leg Russia and China this year. Where next? Please Reply to Box No 6098

CHEERFUL, friendly, caring London lady, interesting and fun, own house, solvent, uncomplicated wishes meet gentleman, public school (like her), with integrity, Xian values, 50s/60s, for friendship, simple pleasures, mutual hospitality. Box No 6591

COMPATIBLE chap sought, 50+, tall, presentable, N/S: public school, grad/prof qualif: city/law/medical background: interested baroque music, opera, Europe, skiing, London. Please Reply to Box No 6628

COSMOPOLITAN attractive sensual lady with charm & style 50's seeks generous gentleman of means to enjoy life West Riding area. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6604

CURVY Capricorn divorcee (50's) seeks loving soulmate to make her eyes sparkle again. He will be late 50's/60's, love life and have time to enjoy it. (retired ?). I live in the Midlands, he could be anywhere down to the West Country - both prepared to travel. Reply to Box No 6506

ELEGANT attractive successful London based business woman with zest for life early 40s would like to balance the equation by adding an interesting male counterpart, photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 6486

ELEGANT attractive sociable prof lady, style, humour and wit seeks similar man 40-50 for laughter, and quality relationship. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 6604

ELEGANT attractive lady, warm feminine 40's seeks tall unattached gentleman, style & presence for romance, mutual appreciation - travel. Photo please to Box No 6654

ENDANGERED Species sought. Tall, Slim, Fit, successful but sincere Prof M with GSOH for similar F. Please send Photo. Reply to Box No 6513

ENRICH your life with this attractive slim lady, seeking gentleman 38-50 extremely successful, fit romantic caring intelligent. NorthWest and South. Photo please reply to Box No 6422

FEMININE stylish 37 enjoys sport, theatre, music, excellent food/wine, travel seeks solvent male 34-45. Warmth affection and laughter essential. Please Reply to Box No 6640

FOUR N.W. friends aged 40-50ish children young to fledged. Romantic vivacious successful with a passion for family, horses, animals, elegant living and earthy humour + a great deal more to offer the right persons. Looking for vital confident charming and considerate gentlemen of means. (any walk of life to take us in hand). Letters please Box No 6497 Pvte ann.

FRENCH professional lady tall NS vivacious seeks tall educated sophisticated, caring gent 55-60 lasting relationship enjoy the arts. Classical music/ballet/antiques/travelling. Box 6643

FUN loving prof female 25, enjoys sports, esp water, travel & great food. Looking for that special man to include in my life. SE London. Please Reply to Box No 6676

GENTLEWOMAN middle aged, middle class, middle sized, and divorced seeks honest male companion. Must have S.O.H., be right of centre and be N/S. Please Reply to Box No 6622

GOLF Mad Widow professional Essex Lady N/S mid 50 travel bug GSOH meet man similar interests. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6496

GORGEOUS widow in her prime, stylish but sweet and gentle, and only occasionally stroppy, seeks 40-55 year old tall, sane, caring, talkative man with oomph. West Midlands Area. Box No 6624

GRADUATE lady teacher 50 Leicester based. Likes theatre films animals people. Would like permanent relationship with sensitive graduate. Please Reply to Box No 6645

HELP! Attractive divorcee, 28, tall, slim, N/S, seeks caring man to share life. One boy (4), and one Downs Syndrome girl (3), E.Yorks. Box No 6690

HIGHGATE area extremely good looking arts grad 40s, witty vital unconventional aesthete seeks masculine equivalent. Please Reply to Box No 6617

I Don't want the earth, I just want an educated man, 50+, who would like to meet a slim attractive prof. lady. N. London. Please Reply to Box No 6605

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INDEPENDENT non-power crazed woman 40 seeks honest solvent man who enjoys life and laughter. Bristol area. Please Reply to Box No 6401

INDEPENDENT 40s lady seeks solvent intelligent attractive man for long term relationship 38 to early 60s. Box No 6615

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LADY dental surgeon with own practice early 50's seeks Doctor Dentist Lawyer for friendship. Please Reply to Box No 6471

LIVELY sincere lady early 50s enjoys golf music theatre wishes to meet n/s gent, similar ints. Photo plse Box No 6610

LONDON woman, glamorous fifties, cool head, warm heart, creative job & arts interests, seeks civilised, exciting professional man for happy ever after or near offer. Photo please to Box No 6642

LONDON based attractive prof lady romantic slim fit and fair with varied interests seeks similar amusing man 48-60. Photo appreciated.Box No 6434

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OXFORD Bright and attractive, loyal & affectionate, stylish professional graduate mother of two. Francophile, practising Anglo-catholic, slim, 5'7", 42 seeks attractive N/S man with wisdom, compassion & culture. Photo please to Box No 6484

PRETTY petite happy lady living France (2 kids) seeks charming educated sporty SOH man (35-45) to share travel w/e warmth, commitment. Please Reply with photo to Box 6447

PRETTY Balham brunette seeks adventurous man, 38-45, for fun, friendship, affection. A family? Must like rock (90s), skiing, films, books, countryside. Box No 6518

PRETTY slim brunette 30 something seeks educated male upto 45 yrs for fun, friendship. Photo please to Box No 6581

PROF. gentleman highest integrity 45-60's for younger ladies: to mix a little colour, warmth & wit! Phone first. Lond/Hants.Box No 6571

PROF lady London widow late 50's. Tall slim smart would like to meet gent in sim circs 55-65. Must be N/S & enjoy both arts & sport. Box No 6457

PROF writer 41 attractive slim fit seeks positive caring solvent man as to share arts music country and help make life fun for me & 3 small boys. Cotswolds. Reply to Box No 6544

REGAL feline, lean, into life 4, with growing kitten, seeks owl to make her purr. Box No 6469

ROMANTIC lady early 50's warm personality loves life music walking and much more seeks n/s caring intelligent soulmate for friendship or maybe more. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6322

SENSUAL solvent london lady 38 with style humour and spontaneity wants similar man to have adventures with. Photo essential. Reply to Box No 6503

SERIOUSLY attractive Scot 40s v.slim sensual dark flashing eyes seeks successful older gent to love cherish and take care of me. Box No 6586

SINCERE lady 47 who finds widowhood somewhat lonely would like once more to share life with a soul-mate. Integrity, a sense of humour with a liking for travel, golf & bridge would be ideal combination. But if you come close to any of these I would love to hear from you. Please Reply to Box No 6620

SLEEPING BEAUTY Castle Devon seeks middle-aged Prince. End snores with kiss. Please Reply to Box No 6555

SLIM attractive vivacious blue eyed brunette 40 likes the arts, especially Modigliani and opera, travel and fun wishes to meet attractive man to spoil her. Mids. based. Please Reply to Box No 6849

SLIM attractive intelligent divorced lady widely travelled financially secure. North-West Essex, wishes to meet tall financially secure gentleman 50-60. Please Reply to Box No 6410

SLIM attractive blonde 50 loves horse racing, dining, trys not to waste life wishes to meet wealthy gentleman of like mind. Reply to Box No 6888

SOPHISTICATED presentable grandma cultural, travel and sporting interests seeks similarly successful interesting grandpa with whom to share enjoyable times. London. Box No 6482

SPANISH villa. I have half, can you afford golf, me and the other half? Box No 6479

STRIKING professional singer 37 5'7" slim & attractive seeks N/S husband with strong interest in classical music/opera. London. Reply with tel. Box No 6609

STUNNING shapely, strawberry blonde, London lady (38), seeks charismatic, handsome, sophisticated, solvent man, for serious relationship, (photo ensures response) (rtn). Reply Box No 6456

STUNNING blond, mid 30's, seeks man for fun, friendship and romance. London, Please Reply to Box No 6629

STYLISH professional 37 enjoys travel music excellent food wine cooking seeks professional man 34-42 who is honest kind GSOH and not afraid of commitment Photo plse Box 6566

SURREY Scandinavian Widow 53 slim blond educated charming country home likes travel seeks tall easy going executive gentleman. Please Reply to Box No 6493

TEENAGE sons leaving home soon seek a really nice man to take their ancient (58) pretty, funny, intelligent, busy, working mum out now and then. No big deal just a good friend. London. Box No 6515

VERY ATTRACTIVE Widow (56), living in Kent, interested in music, opera, art, sailing, travelling, etc, wishes to meet n/s professional or academic gentleman to share energetic lifestyle in loving, caring relationship. Please call Cheryl Brown at Candleburners 071 371 8838

VERY sensual slim attractive woman young 40s unexpectedly home alone, can be sweet or seductive, winsome or wild, desires tall solvent hunky intelligent humorous guy 30/40s to share love life & laughter. SE area Rec. photo ALA Box.6514

VIVACIOUS sensual slim petite brunette lady (London/Surrey) seeks cultured fit solvent blue eye 45-55 gentleman to share trips to France/Italy Please Reply to Box No 6572

VIVACIOUS Spanish, very attractive, fun loving female 30's, passionate, romantic, honest, intelligent, successful, seeks similar male 5'8" to 6', well educated, reliable, solvent, SOH for caring relationship. Only gentleman need apply, Photo essential, confidentiality respected. Box No 6464

WARKS based lady tall fair fifty active, int in the arts wishes to meet kind tall gent with similar tastes. Box No 6644

WARM hearted generous woman, early 60's, not retired, smoker, seeks companion. Integrity & intellectual ability essential, concerts, Opera, Cinema, food, friends-and Ralophile. Please reply to Box No 6563 with photograph.

WARM slim attractive (not glam) lady teacher 49 loves music walking good food travel/France seeks caring gent SOH to share those things. Box 6534

WELL-SPOKEN, well educated, active, attractive, feminine, very gregarious blonde lady seeks male companion 30-48 to share social life and laughter. Please Reply to Box No 6542

WE would like to invite four special gentleman to join us for a small select supper party at home in a Cotswold village setting. Lively and interesting conversation, a sense of humour and an outgoing personality a must. Preferably 45-55 tall, attractive, professional and genuine. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6613

WHO DARES WINS? Windsor woman 46 seeks humorous happy healthy well-balanced well-educated unattached and relaxed man to share life with. Please Reply to Box No 6689

WIDOW 57 cuddly loving would be merry with educ witty man caring, music lover. Cultural outings, fun innings, open to commitment. Box No 6683

WOULD you like the company of a tall slim charming kind educated prof gentleman? 40's. E.Anglia. If you are pretty natural and cheerful please reply with photo to Box No 6626

W YORKS Prof Lady 36 seeks a lovely cultured soulmate GSOH under 45, I like music, theatre, auctions & food.Box No 6605

YORKSHIRE Leeds. Attractive elegant independent lady warm vibrant SOH seeks tall handsome man 45-55 intelligent sincere sporty high profile in business MD or similar. Please Reply to Box No 6596

YORKSHIRE based refined solvent feminine divorced lady 45 seeks unattached prof. guy for fun outings & more Box 6478

YOU must be as crazy about golf as I am and ideally aged between 30 and 40. Please Reply to Box No 6620

YOUR virility not of great interest but would love your companionship. I'm elegant witty solvent sixty and in Surrey. Alone since 1992 and need rescuing. Please Reply to Box No 6636

GENTLEMEN

AARDVARK? No - but my first ad! Handsome Norfolk lawyer fit 45 into acting/comedy/everything/homely things too seeks lively romantic lady pref 30's. Box No 6625

ACADEMIC male, 45, plays piano loves opera, travel, country. Seeks witty attractive lady partner, N E London. Box 6485

ACTIVE, warm, loyal, reliable, lawyer, 50 interested in touring, rambles, sports, Bridge, nature, seeks intelligent, talkative, warm, lively, attrac, slim lady pref. prof/bus/un degree. Reply with photo Box No 6398

ADVENTUROUS Cosmopolitan gent 40 considerate caring wishes to meet attractive younger lady for romance & travel. Photo please to Box No 6454

AESTHETE solvent 50ish visual arts int, East Anglian seeking Boticelli, 40ish woman into European travel for seriously caring relationship Box 6477

AFFECTIONATE handsome 6' post-grad. student in Norway 27 wants sweet older lady for 2-way love. Can travel. Box 6414

A gentleman 6ft early sixties seeks congenial elegant sun loving lady 35-50 for relaxing week in May at Cap D'Agde. Photo please to Box No 6594

ARE there any very tall, intelligent, attractive, non-RC ladies under forty about? British-American, IQ-159, 46, soft spoken Leo is looking for his first mate. Box No 6635

ARE you within 60 miles of Oxford, about 44/84 and willing to spend time with an intelligent and cultured, tall individual if appropriate? Well then, providing you are fastidious, not lacking comme il faut and unmistrorily, why not ring the number on my letterhead. Please Reply to Box No 6693

ARE you that special person? Demonstrative with style 30+. To share aspirations travel wine food eat London with single male 41 n/s optimistic independant secure possible romantic believes in fate. Based London S/E write with photo please to Box No 6611

ARTISAN Ruggedly handsome 39 seeks intelligent attractive lady. I may move to France if interested. Recent photo to Box No 6466

ANDREW - 28, 5'9", medium build, dark hair, green eyes & good looking (ish!). I enjoy restaurants, theatre, cinema, art, talking, shopping (especially shopping!), travel & ghosts (I love being scared - Hence this ad!) Most of My friends are girls. I have this habit of meeting a girl, becoming really good friends & then it being too late to change the relationship from friends to boyfriend & girlfriend... I want to meet someone who is fun, interesting, maybe career minded, smart, affectionate, who can spot a designer label at 20 paces, but isn't a fashion victim! Someone who can be sophisticated one day & a big Kid the next the next. Who likes going out, but Loves staying in with a stack of videos & more popcorn than is possible to eat! I live in London & work for a video production company (actually I own it, but I hate show-offs!). Send a photo & I'll return one of mine & a long letter (Yawn Yawn!). Please Reply to Box No 6640

A successful male art-lover in London SW1 seeks tall, educated lady (30-45) to share good-living, antiques, adventurous travel etc.Box No 6299

ATTRACTIVE easy going man, a young 42, fashionable, tall, blue eyes, creative, n/s, GSOH, enjoys dining out, travel and music seeks attractive stylish lady n/s in London area for fun and romance. Reply with photo to Box No 6491

ATTRACTIVE tanned actor/counsellor with a real sense of fun and laughter seeks Southern society lady for shopping trips. Reply to Box No 6661

AVERAGE man, presentable, kind, solvent, cultured seeks the friendship of similar woman 50's, and hopes to earn her love. SE London. Box No 6608

BALD divorced businessman 56, homes in Central London and America, seeks attractive N/S lady 35-50 for dining, theatre, travel, romance. Photo essential (to be returned).Box No 6599

BANK ON ME! Retired Bank Manager, 60, honest, reliable, seeks sincere romance with slim, petite, v. pretty n/s like minded lady. Me Berkshire, You anywhere. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6564

BUSINESSMAN 37 6'3" goes on trips abroad in June. Seeks tall trim well-bred lady partner (25-35) let enjoy location, dancing & fun with possibility of long-term relationship.Box No 6527

CARING relaxed widower, tall young 61, wants to share life with a warm-hearted lady, slim 50+ with cultural and intellectual interests. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 6657

COMPANY DIRECTOR, 50, widely travelled, normal interests, central England, seeks attractive professional lady, 35-45, to accompany him on European holiday for 2/3 weeks July/August as possible introduction to permanent relationship. Photo please to Box No 6600

CONSIDERATE, kind, articulate man, boat enthusiast, 40, seeks similar lady, 30's, for exciting cruising w/ends & possible romance. S.East. Box No 6637

CREWING LADY in 30's for friendship and help on 3-4 week Caribbean Charter in May. Tel: 0860 976909

CULTURED intelligent Handsome Athletic American 25 seeks mature older woman for civilized adventure - age absolutely irrelevant. Box No 6541

DELIGHTFUL Supper parties for bright & interesting people (30+) in Edward Curzon-Howe Chelsea home. Not a club or agency, just enjoyable evenings. Call 071-373 6987 for more info. (ansaph)

DISTINGUISHED and successful Englishman, impeccable background, unattached, 50'ish, slim fit and virile, requires an elegant lady companion for a lasting loving relationship. Please Reply to Box No 6575

DOCTOR 65 honest humorous humane (and likes beach holidays) seeks educated professional lady E. Anglia/N.Kent. Photo app Box No 6461

DOCTOR 57 warm & fulfilled but missing an attractive lady to be somebody special. If you can help, please reply with photo. Luton H.Counties. Box 6646

DOES any attractive striking sensuous younger lady seek a personable single solvent London based professional in late 50's who appreciates an assertive partner. Box No 6543

DO you live in North London? Is it you? Prof man late 40s separated, solvent, sincere, slim, successful, seeks similar sympathetic soul. Snap secures swift satisfaction. Box No 6480

EASY GOING humorous lawyer 37 attractive sportsman (insap) music lover seeks bright attractive woman Bournemouth area. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 6467

EXCEPTIONAL CATCH!! Devastatingly handsome sensual charismatic tall London banker 40 is trawling the seas for a stunning warm exceptional n/s mermaid 30's! Photo please. Reply to Box No 6340

FRENCHMAN, 31 5'9". Engineer living in Paris, seeks single intelligent English girl for romance and maybe more. All Letters answered. Please Reply to Box No 6490

GRADUATE man 68 divorced tall, solvent for re biddable stylish balanced lady up to 58. London/Herts/Essex. Please Reply to Box No 6361

GENUINE successful London business owner 40. V. personable single seeks slim attractive good-natured lady 20-35 for fun romance and hopefully serious relationship. Photo please Reply Box 6641

GOOD-LOOKING businessman requires a life-style change. Single again and wishes to be distracted from long business meetings. I am successful with a strong personality, generous, humorous aged 41, seeking very attractive feminine lady under 35, able to turn heads when in a crowded restaurant & would not take too much persuasion to enjoy a luxurious life-style in a fun relationship. Recent photo & tel no appreciated. Reply to Box No 6570

GOOD LOOKING fit, well educated London based man 34. Loves the country, travelling and adventure. Are there any like minded, attractive, slim, career minded ladies 25-35 yrs who would like to share some good times? Letter & photo to Box No 6462

GRADUATE gentleman socialite slim solvent presentable seeks upmarket lady age 50 upwards about 5'4" for laughter, romance. Photo appreciated. Northants/East Midlands. Please Reply to Box No 6455

HANDSOME distinguished male 45 athletic build retired military officer seeks attractive N/S female 30-45 for quality time. Photo please. Any area. Please Reply to Box No 6476

INTELLIGENT Attractive slim lady sought by divorced male aged youthful 51. London/SE. Please Reply to Box No 6673

ITALIAN business (Director) various companies. Seeks an articulate loving and responsible lady 25-35 to share a business pleasure and travel related companionship. Send photo with reply to Box No 6660

KIND caring considerate director 52 mid Hants, has all the trappings seeks attractive English Rose 40ish, ideally with young family and GSOH. Reply with photo for my [illegible]. Box 6439

LATE 30's male. 6'6" n/s professional, well travelled, loves talking, listening, laughing, sharing, living, wining, dining, kissing, hugging, with lots of giggles, tickling & frenzied passion! Character wise I am very independent, affectionate, sociable, easy going, dependable & dynamic - I'll leave you to discover the faults. Please send long letter & photo for same by return. Reply to Box No 6297

LETS put fun back into life! A very successful man who enjoys travel & weekends away would like to meet a very attractive & fun-loving lady 28-38. Please send photo. South-East based. Reply Box No 6564

LONELINESS is the burden of enlightenment. Lawyer 37 W.London based. Unpretentious, phlegmatic and failed amateur philosopher seeks so little-attractive intelligent lady soul mate to 38 to disprove the-ory. Box No 6463

LOST in space (E.Anglia) man, 47, sad, funny, seeks weaver-bird. Please Reply Box No 6584

MALE 59, 6'. Kent based, recently widowed, is seeking a new permanent relationship. I have many interests especially classic cars, and own Bentley, Jaguar, Daimler, Riley, and more. Only genuine ladies need apply. Box No 6607

MALE lean tall dark hair green eyes single solvent 30 writer photographer sensual seeks companion: Girl 18+ ravishing intelligent imaginative. Ints. + photo please. SE.Box No 6452

"ME, waiting until nearly fifty to credit marvels" OK. So here I am, a woman who rejoices to be one, crediting marvels. How, where and with whom do I spend the second half of my life? It's exciting and scarey. "today well lived makes every yesterday a memory of happiness and every tommorow a vision of hope" If you go with that, the walking under stars, breaking bread, drinking wine, being a member of the human race and would like to meet, write, with a photo of the face behind your words. Tell me what makes you laugh and cry, what gives you joy and pain. Be straight with me. Wessex & Normandy based. Have passport. Can travel. Carpe diem. Please Reply to Box No 6628

MIDDLE aged youthful businessman invites outdoor type thirties woman on late spring holiday, basic expenses paid. Photo/phone to Box No 6606

MIDLANDS based successful businessman mid 30's divorced seeks intelligent slim attractive feminine lady for friendship travel and romance. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 6582

NAUGHTY forty T'be or not T'be it's me I'm free awaiting thee. If you're game 4 Mad March Hare Scarlet Pimpernel will visit your lair. Profile 2 Box 6483

OH! WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE. Gentleman of the old school seeks lady of true quality and refinement (45-55) with interest in music, the arts, travel etc., to share life, love and the pursuit of happiness. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6666

PERSONALITY strong, character forceful, age old but not too, looks pleasant, state divorced. S.O.H. great, experience vast, finances sound, ideas totally politically incorrect, temper quick, totally truthful! But kind, compassionate and warm hearted. Loves children and animals. Seeks a younger lady to care for and protect! Reply to Box No 6648

PROFESSIONAL Gentleman 40's, fit, slim, attractive, own business, seeks young tall, slim, intelligent lady to keep him young and make him laugh. Staffs/Cheshire. Box No 6630

RUGGED country living. Virile early Clint Eastwood type prof. business bachelor seeks attractive girl 21/33 for romance/relationship. Marches/- Mids /Cotswolds. Photo/Box 6441

SE London/Kent attractive n/s good natured professional man, GSOH slim mid 50s likes walking, travel, theatre. Seeks warm cheerful lady to enjoy life with. ALA. Reply to Box No 6621

SINCERE and straightforward early thirties Piscean gent seeks special female companion for romance, excitement and fulfilment. Box No 6403

SINGLE Man, 39, based Sussex, no dependents, sincere, sporty. VGSOH and not too serious a disposition, who enjoys Classical & Jazz music, languages, crosswords, anything Italian & Cinema would love to hear from like-minded lady 30-40 in similar circumstances. Please reply, preferably with photo, to Box No 6609

SINGLE tall attractive professional female (brunette) early thirties, would like to hear from tall handsome man for caring sincere relationship. Please Reply to Box No 6587

SUCCESSFUL businessman unattached seeks fun lady to love. Must be pretty with curvy figure (not skinny!) A loving nature essential age 30-42. Photo please. South-East based. Reply to Box No 6653

SUCCESSFUL businessman, 31, has worked and rested and now wants to play! Seeking an attractive lady to share lazy days and crazy nights. Please reply with photo, Box No 6682

SUCCESSFUL City [illegible] mid 40s n/s likes sailing, restaurants. Seeks mermaid [illegible] 30s to navigate relationship. Please write to Box No [illegible]

SURREY gentleman [illegible] attractive 50ish [illegible] lady for caring relationship. Photo please. Sth-East [illegible] Box No [illegible]

TALL creative Canadian male, equally comfortable in the board room or the kitchen, seeks unpretentious female for fulfilment and adventure (30's/40's). Box No 6487

TALL, single, sporty [illegible] arts-loving businessman/consultant, strong [illegible] slim, fit, youthful [illegible] diverse enthusiasms and [illegible] musician manque, socially comfortable in [illegible] jackets: seeks [illegible] young woman with style and wit for long-term adventure. Photo please to Box No 6475

THERE Must be a gorgeous Lady 30ish living M3/M4 dying to meet a tall attractive successful guy who loves sports, countryside, theatre, pasta, classical Rock and Roll. If you are great fun to be with and like me looking something in your life then go for it. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6489

TWO Jewish guys. One fit & into tennis the other unfit but kind, each prefers the fairer sex + films & theatre. Seeks well-balanced lively pretty prof ladies 45ish. Photos please reply to Box No 6567

VERY successful actuary male 50 likes opera, cinema, sport and is looking for unstuffy female friend 30's. Photo and phone essential. Box No 6687

W.MIDLANDS Genuine, decent chap, 34, 5'11", slim, dark hair, attractive, friendly, humourous, passionate, romantic, educated. Enjoys [illegible] rock music, opera, [illegible] Successful, professional. Just relocated. Looking for my 'rare catch' female, slim, attractive, fun loving. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6442

WANTED: unencumbered, prosperous, humorous n/s woman (28-36) with wide interests, established in mainstream profession (eg. law, medicine, City, business) to join forces with similar bachelor (40's, 5'10, 11st, fit, unbald), self-made, well established in creative TV., graduate. Will exchange photos. Box No 6977

WITTY kind slim articulate 6'4" bearded professional man passionate ornithologist young 54 Cambs. Also loves travel fast cars food wine music seeks unattached NS cultured slim sensual blonde birdwatching lady who looks good in jeans to fly away together. Photo please Reply to Box No 6603

YOUNG attractive company MD 36 sporty, intelligent, GSOH, lovely lifestyle, travel etc seeks lady 22-34, must be very attractive GSOH intelligent, articulate, photo essential. Reply Box 6630, you won't be disappointed.

1994
Could this be our year - lets meet and find out.
YOU Unattached, feminine, elegant, intelligent, pretty, attractive, slim, petite, lady ideally under 45, N/S, with VGSOH who would like to enjoy and share the better things in life including wining and dining, theatre, travel, comfortable homelife, with plenty of TLC and affection through honest, relaxing, caring, permanent relationship.
ME London based, successful, professional, businessman, early 50's, slim, 5'5", very attractive, fit, and financially secure. Now unattached and considered to be sincere, sociable, generous, charming and reliable. Enjoys life to the full but prefers to share.
Please write with recent photograph and telephone number to ensure prompt reply. Genuine.
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The Times cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will.
If you chose to send a photograph we would suggest enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and indicate if you wish the photograph to be returned.

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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

AMONG the readers' queries which have flooded in since the close of *The Times* World Chess Championship between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short last year have been repeated new requests to explain the chess notation and the ELO system of chess ratings.

How to Follow the Chess Moves

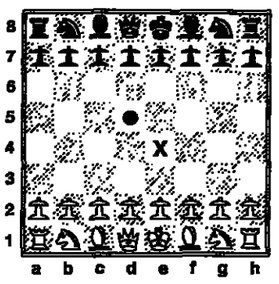
Chess has a perfect medium in algebraic notation for reliving the drama and details of any specific game. Those new to the game will find the following explanation helpful, as will others who use the "English Descriptive" notation.

Each back-row piece is represented by a letter, as follows:

Knight	N
Bishop	B
Rook	R
Queen	Q
King	K

Pawn moves do not require a specific mention of the unit being moved, as will be explained later.

On the diagram below the squares on the chessboard are described by co-ordinates, consisting of a letter followed by a number. For instance, the square marked with a cross is called "e4" and the square marked with a black circle is called "d5". This follows exactly the same principle as reading off a reference on an A-Z street guide or road map. Everybody can pick this up in a matter of minutes. There is no mystery at all.



Whenever a piece moves, the initial letter of that piece appears at the start of the move. What follows is the square to which the piece is transferred. For example 1 Nf3 signifies that White's first move is a knight to f3.

But when a pawn moves, only the square on which it arrives, when the move is completed, is mentioned. A perfect example would be if White were to move his pawn to e4 on move one. The move would be written down as 1 e4.

Captures are represented with an "x". For example, were White to play 1 e4 and Black to reply 1 . . . d5 (. . . indicates that there has been a previous move by the opponent), White could now play 2 exd5, capturing the black pawn.

Castling is represented by 0-0, or 0-0-0. In the first instance, castling kingside, the king moves from e1 to g1 (or e8 to g8, if Black is castling) and the rook simultaneously moves from h1 to f1 (or h8 to f8). In the second case, castling queenside, the king moves from e1 to c1 (or e8 to c8) and the rook from a1 to d1 (or a8 to d8). A + is a check.

ELO System

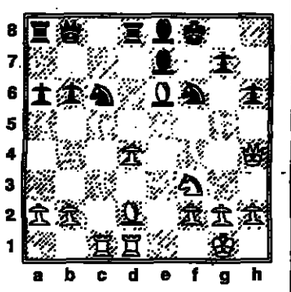
A common question before a game is "What is your rating?". Every international chess player has a published number, known as an ELO rating (after the American, Professor Arpad Elo, who devised it), which signifies his or her strength, based on previous results. The ELO list is updated twice yearly, on the basis of recent tournament scores.

A player's performance, whether a gain or loss of rating points, as the result of a single game, is computed by determining the rating differential between the two players and then calculating the expected score between them. For equally matched players this would be 50 per cent each, but if there is a discrepancy in their respective strengths then it might, for example, be 60-40 per cent. This expected score is then compared with the actual score (1-0 for a win, or 0.5-0.5 for a draw) and the difference noted. This difference is then multiplied by a carefully chosen statistical number, which varies between 10 and 15 depending on a player's strength, to give the appropriate rating adjustment.

For example, before *The Times* World Championship match between Kasparov and Short, their ratings would have been 2815 and 2665 respectively. The result of the match was 12.5-7.5 in Kasparov's favour, whereas the expected score (according to their ratings) would have been 13.8-6.2. Short therefore over-achieved by 1.3 points and gains 13 (i.e. 1.3 x 10) points from the champion, despite losing the match. The new ratings would thus have been 2802 for Kasparov and 2678 for Short, although these are always rounded up or down to the nearest 5 for publication purposes. For comparison, a grandmaster rating would be 2500 and a club player's rating would be 1800.

No Defence

I have received a number of queries from readers concerning the winning move position, below, which was published on February 12.



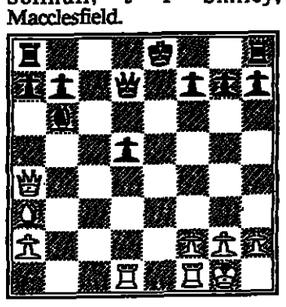
The solution is 1 Qxh6, when 1 gxh6 is met by 2 Bxh6 checkmate. Mr H Dovey of Norfolk suggests as a possible defence 1 . . . Ng8, meeting 2 Qh8 with 2 . . . Bf7. This, however, runs into 3 Bxf7 Kxf7 4 Rxc6 and White wins easily. Mr D Poyner of Essex suggests 1 . . . Bd6, but this is refuted by 2 Qh8+ Ke7 3 Qxg7+ Kxe6 4 Re1+ Kd5 5 Qg5+ and White again wins.

WINNING MOVE

Today's position is from the game Lehmann - Muller, Lucerne 1952. The Black king is caught in a crossfire. How did White ensure that it didn't survive?

Send your answer on a postcard to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer will be published next Saturday. Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Qg7+.

Last week's winners are: D Thom, Cheltenham; M Tapp, Solihull; J P Smiley, Macclesfield.



BRIDGE

by Albert Dormer

SMILING ARTHUR was popular with the younger element at our club but some of the older members had reservations. They maintained that he was too fond of indulging his flair for difficult trump contracts, and that he seldom let his partner play a hand in no trumps, even when this would have been safer.

A hand early in Arthur's career seemed to bear this out and at one stage it looked as though Arthur was due to eat a large slice of humble pie.

	♠AK9 ♥85 ♦J10842 ♣AK8	
♠Q1042 ♥43 ♦KQ8 ♣Q1064	N W E S	♠J6 ♥10762 ♦A7653 ♣J7
	♠8753 ♥AKQJ9 ♦- ♣9532	

N	S
1♦	1♥
1NT	4♥
No	

Opening lead: ♠K

Over North's opening Arthur responded 1♥ in approved fashion but when his partner rebid his hand at no-trumps Arthur stepped way out of line.

Most players would reckon that South would have a harder time making ten tricks in a suit contract than North would have making nine tricks in no-trumps, especially with the North hand concealed and with five running heart winners in the dummy.

They would therefore raise to either 2NT or 3NT. A scientific player might instead bid 2♠ but, one way or another, the final contract would be 3NT.

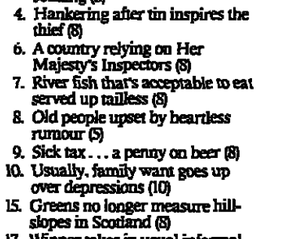
However, Arthur seldom did what most players would do and instead he bulldozed his way to 4♥. A diamond was led and after a whispered consultation the kibitzers decided that he was about to be knocked off his perch. In 3NT there would have been nine cold tricks. In 4♥, Arthur could make only those same nine tricks.

Thus, if he tried to establish a fourth card in either clubs or spades, he would be thwarted by the 4-2 break. And if he tried to ruff the fourth round of either suit, he would fail dismally when East overruffed.

Someone thought that it might be possible to squeeze West in the black suits but nobody could really work it out.

Yet Arthur took the hand in his stride. He ruffed the diamond opening, crossed to a spade, and nonchalantly ruffed another diamond.

Using dummy's winners as entries, he proceeded to ruff each one of the remaining diamonds, exhausting his trumps in the process.



The more discerning kibitzers began to realise what he was up to. This was the position:

	♠9 ♥85 ♦- ♣8	
♠Q ♥43 ♦- ♣Q	N W E S	♠- ♥10762 ♦- ♣-
	♠87 ♥- ♦- ♣95	

Having taken nine tricks, Arthur exited with a spade. Now East was forced to ruff and lead a trump up to dummy's 8-5, conceding the gamegoing trick. Arthur had brought off the most spectacular dummy-reversal ever seen at the club.

Neat as it was, the hand took second place to one of his later exploits:

	♠K8 ♥AK63 ♦KJ10 ♣8543	
♠106 ♥J542 ♦753 ♣J1097	N W E S	♠AJ7 ♥Q98 ♦9862 ♣AKQ
	♠Q95432 ♥107 ♦AQ4 ♣82	

East opened a strong no-trump but Arthur brazenly overcalled 2♠ in typical fashion. North happened to be one of Arthur's staunchest fans and he had no hesitation in raising to game.

West led a club and East played off three rounds of the suit, Arthur ruffing the third.

At this point the onlookers began to drift away. It was clear that not even Smiling Arthur could avoid losing two trump tricks to go one down.

Later, when the news got round that Arthur had made the contract, the club's senior kibitzer refused to believe it until someone wrote down the cards and ticked them off one by one.

It was simple, but it was almost magical. After ruffing the third club lead Arthur played off three rounds of hearts, ruffing in hand.

Then he crossed to a diamond and led dummy's last club. East could do no better than to discard a diamond, so Arthur ruffed the trick and cashed the two remaining diamond winners, leaving dummy on lead in this ending:

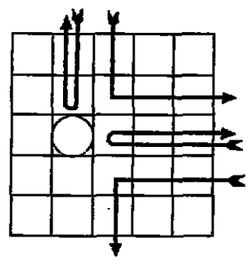
	♠K8 ♥6 ♦- ♣-	
♠106 ♥J ♦- ♣-	N W E S	♠AJ7 ♥- ♦- ♣-
	♠Q95 ♥- ♦- ♣-	

The ♥6 was led and East found that he was out of business. If he ruffed with the 7, Arthur would overruf with the 9 and lose only to the ♠A.

East did the best he could when he ruffed with the jack, but Arthur calmly overruffed with the queen, returned the 5, and finessed dummy's 8. Once again Smiling Arthur had trounced his critics.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3245: Black Box by Arcturus



IN THE Black Box game, the position of atoms within a grid must be discovered by observing where a ray reappears after entering the box at a known starting point on the edge. As the diagram above shows, a ray encountering an atom in the same row or column is deflected through 180 degrees. A ray encountering an atom in a diagonally adjacent square is deflected away through 90 degrees.

The crossword diagram represents such a black box with nine atoms concealed; two of these are known to be located at the isolated squares. In the correctly completed diagram, the letters at the atom positions spell out a name (5,4), reading left to right, top to bottom. Solvers should fill in the isolated squares.

Two unclued thematic lights have a titular connection: corresponding pairs of letters taken from each of these lights provide seven ray paths, each letter matching one printed at the edge of the diagram. For example, if the first letters of the two lights were A and B, a ray entering at position A on the edge of the diagram reappears at B.

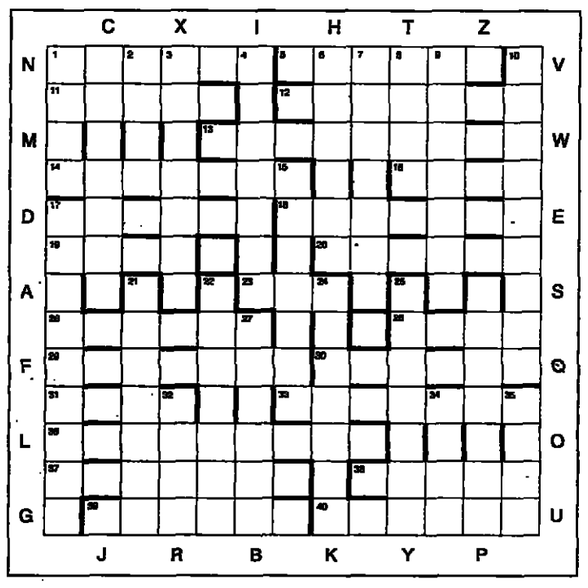
From all the clue answers, one letter must be omitted wherever it occurs in the word, before entry in the diagram. Definitions in the clues refer to the full answers; subsidiary indications refer to the mutilated forms to be entered in the diagram. Numbers in brackets show the full lengths of words. The letters omitted form a relevant quotation from the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* (1992). (Statistics relating to 1993 crosswords, including personal record, are now available to senders of an SAE — at least 220x110mm; overseas, stamp exempt — to J.E.Green, 31 Bishopric Court, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1TJ.)

ACROSS

1. Dingbats cook with scraps (7)
5. What's shown by wilted pea flower? (7)
11. King wears *second* embellishment on lip? (6)
12. Determined rejection of coldness in resort (8)
13. Guarantee fighting's joined by a violent beggar (10)
14. Unit cost to turn into steel (8)
16. Venture that needs work to gather in harvest (5)
17. Interminably chaste one in charge of sacred books (7)
18. Health program that collects means of communicating infectious diseases (8)
19. A water vessel reduced the burning (5)
20. Enthral nerd with clutch of birds (7)
23. Slav that becomes triumphantly effective after a small drink (4)
26. Rapt on mutating? (7)
28. Lacking guts, King's companion retires under cover of darkness (5)
29. Act as umpire till one supporter rejects me (9)
30. Ohio University's revolutionary cure for stroke (7)
31. Get in the groove with Queen's hit (6)
33. Stalky describes this running game with "it" given seconds start (8)
36. Clay-court shot, where you get control by the rolling (10)
37. Sea-urchin — one at the risk of invading hazard recoils (8)
38. Game's curtailed right in the middle of rubber (6)
39. Deuce played, keeping clubs to follow up (7)
40. Ask about student fiddler (7)

DOWN

1. Country house had a hectare (5)
2. This is opening of Romans, Thessalonians, etc. (6)
3. Paint in December and get a soaking (8)
4. Hankering after tin inspires the thief (8)
6. A country relying on Her Majesty's Inspectors (8)
7. River fish that's acceptable to eat served up tailless (8)
8. Old people upset by heartless rumour (5)
9. Sick tax . . . a penny on beer (8)
10. Usually, family want goes up over depressions (10)
15. Greens no longer measure hill-slopes in Scotland (8)
17. Winner takes in usual informal conference (10)
21. Lump of ore leads towards one ton of metal (8)
22. Wheel cases of boring old rootstock (8)
24. China in second rate collection has blemishes (8)
25. One up in a project (8)
27. Hold recipe using ice and an effervescing mineral (7)
32. A boost for Northern clubs (5)
34. Lump — it's found in porridge when nothing goes right! (5)
35. Inflammation near wound (5)



E	L	M	N	B	M	A	N	M	B	M	E	
U	N	R	U	U	M	L	M	B	M	R	U	
M	U	B	M	B	G	U	N	B	B	U	U	
U	M	E	M	G	A	A	U	R	B	U	R	
B	B	U	N	B	E	B	B	U	N	B	E	
B	U	N	L	U	L	M	I	R	U	B	N	
U	N	R	N	M	G	N	A	E	L	G	M	
B	N	G	B	I	U	B	B	U	R	B	A	
M	L	I	A	M	B	G	U	N	R	B	B	
G	B	M	A	M	U	M	B	B	U	G	R	
A	R	M	B	B	N	I	M	I	L	N	U	
B	N	U	R	U	A	U	N	E	M	I	M	

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD NO 3242

The code phrase is "murmuring of innumerable bees" (Tennyson, *The Princess*), which can be deduced from the distinctive pattern of the first six letters; it accounts for the title, and the fact that more than 20 per cent of the finished diagram comprises the letter B.

WINNERS of Listener Crossword 3242, sponsored by Penguin: R.F. Ray, of Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, won a £50 book token. The £20 book tokens went to J. Gill, of Warlingham, Surrey, and to J.A. Sever, of Ealing, London W5.



PRIZES: A book token worth £50 will go to the first correct solution opened. The two runners-up will each win a £20 book token.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon below, to The *Listener* Crossword 3245, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, March 24.

LISTENER CROSSWORD NO 3245

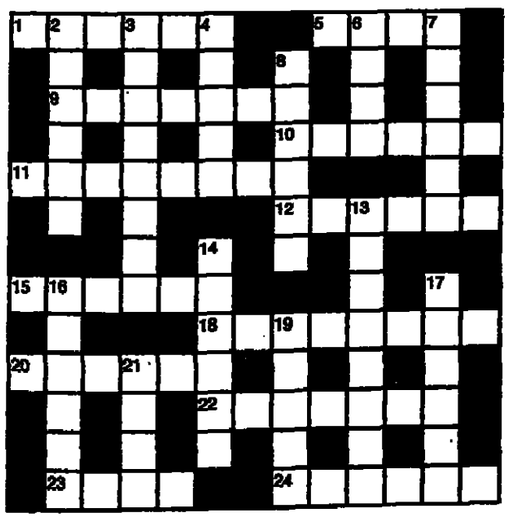
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 117

ACROSS

1 Horse control apparatus (6)
5 Farewell; low area surrounded by hills (4)
9 Old London prison (7)
10 Nun (6)
11 Anticlimactic (8)
12 Bulletin of latest developments (6)
15 Metal lattice (6)
18 Classic language of Hindu scriptures (8)
20 Chapel holding sacred relics (6)
22 In the middle of (7)
23 Corrode, wear away at (4)
24 Spring festival (6)

DOWN

2 Landing strip (6)
3 Away from peak (8)
4 Pass into law (5)
6 Weapons (4)
7 Highly accomplished, knowledgeable (6)
8 Type of lawn grass (6)
13 500-1000 AD as a little-known, savage period (4,4)
14 Fasten (envelope) again (6)
16 Alter position of picture (6)
17 Move very stealthily (6)
19 Snare of looped rope (5)
21 Midwestern state, capital Des Moines (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 116

ACROSS: 1 Bishop 4 Queen 8 U-boat 9 Trivial 10 Capture 11 Pawn 12 Pin 14 Rooms 15 Actor 18 Tea 20 Mate 22 Promote 24 Despoil 25 Elide 26 Check 27 Knight

DOWN: 1 Bouncer 2 Scorpio 3 Outburst 4 Quit 5 Erica 6 Nylon 7 Steep 13 Napoleon 16 Tooling 17 Re-elect 19 Apply 20 Medoc 21 Taste 23 Rook

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99. Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each, Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each, Book 11 £4.25. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Atom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released from Times Books. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each (inc p&p).

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MENSION
a. A newspaper cutting
b. The action of measuring
c. An inert ion

MACKENBOY
a. Irish spurge
b. A waterproof hood
c. A fishing trident

ASCESIS
a. An evergreen plant
b. Self-discipline
c. A Roman nymph

DOWITCHER
a. A wading bird
b. A shepherd's hut
c. A divining rod

Answers on page 25

COMPUTER GAMES

Impressions ENTRIES for the Cyberspace Four competition have already started flooding in. This time we are taking a close look at multi-player games and offering prizes of a new game which up to four can play — Detroit, from Impressions Software.

We have 15 copies of Detroit to be won, worth £39.99 each. The game pits you against all the problems facing the mass motor industry today by allowing you to emulate Ford or De Lorean by designing and building prototypes of your dream cars and driving them to success via the production line. Gameplay runs from 1908 to 2008 and the historical advancement of engineering improvements influences the demand for your sports cars, sedans and trucks.

Employing and maintaining a volatile workforce is just one of the headaches to be tackled. Sales offices must first be established all over the world as outlets for your vehicles, and the marketing ranges from magazine and billboard advertising to costly air-time on radio and television plus high-profile sponsorship deals.

To enter Cyberspace Four you are asked to write — in clear longhand or type — intelligent, witty, enlightening reviews of any outstanding game for two or more players. The judges prefer maverick reports, especially if they incorporate a particularly useful playing tip or trick. Additionally, entrants are asked to nominate the world's worst computer game and why it stoops so low. Each entry should be accompanied by a cut-out of the game's logo, above, and include name, age, address and daytime telephone. Send to: Cyberspace Four, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The closing date is Monday, March 28, and the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.



Super Tennis serves up quite different gaming possibilities in one-or-two-player mode and while the graphics may not be ambitious, they are adequate. James Quilter, of Dublin, believes it to be more fun than watching the real thing because there are no commentators. He adds: "With Super Tennis you can grab the acclaim of the crowd and play like Monica Seles without having to worry about anyone jumping out from behind you. All the shots are catered for, from slices to smashes, and the serve is an art to be mastered."

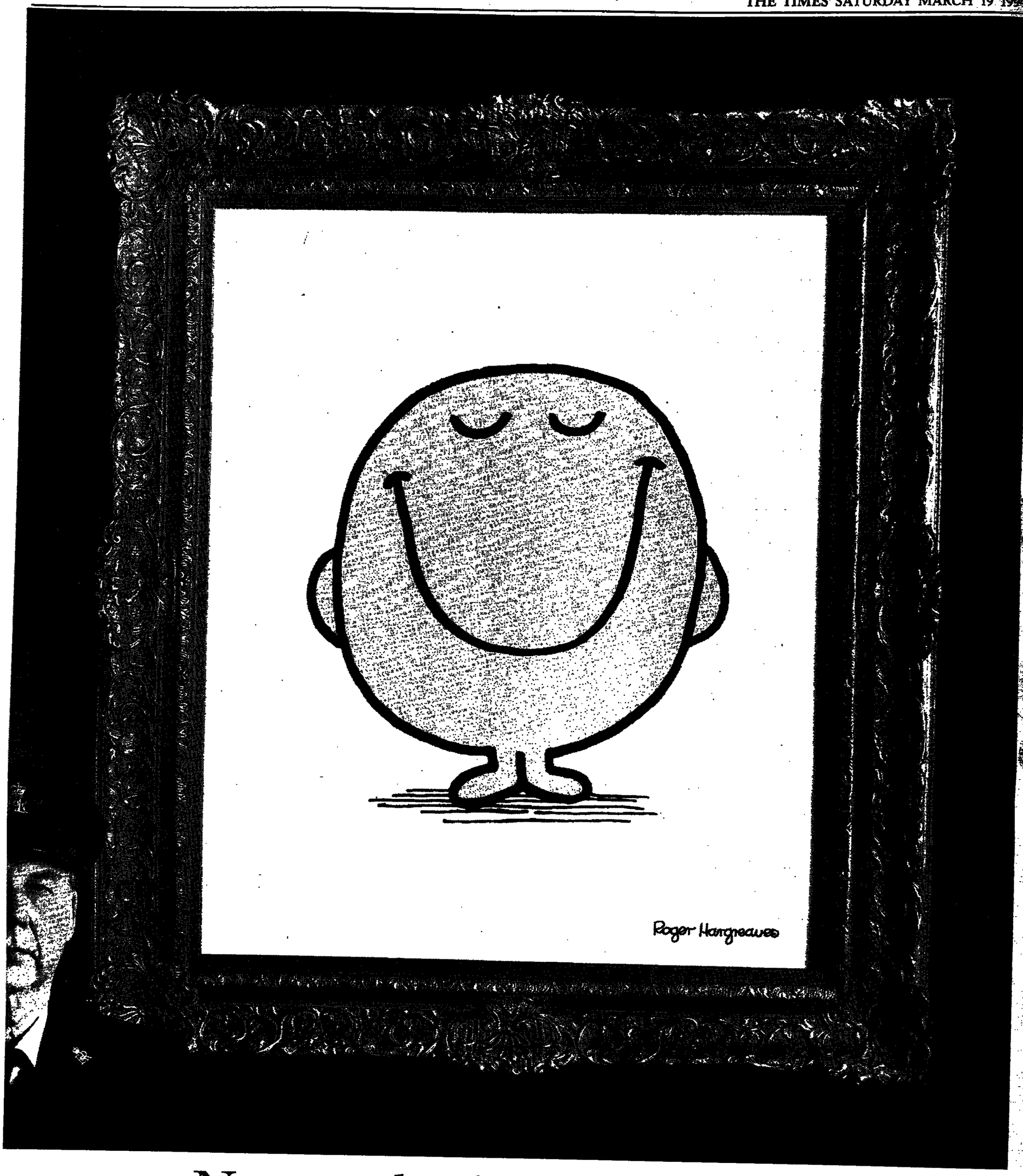
In two-player mode the game offers straightforward head-to-heads but little else. However, in one-player mode the game becomes one of strategy as much as agility to battle through the tournament circuit. "The aim is to become the world's Number One but certain tournaments must be left out to save energy."

For those struggling with Frontier — Elite 2, a few useful gems from Nick Augier, of Ardingly, West Sussex. He offers hope if, after inheriting an Eagle Lone Ranger fighter from Commander Jameson, the light-years you spend travelling and trading come to nothing as you fend off space pirates with a laser as useful as a fly-swat.

He suggests: "Sell all your weapons, as they are no use against pirates and the credits you receive can be put to better use. Buy animal skins on the starting point, Merlin, and save the game. Fly to Boston Base in Barnards Solar System where, although trading in animal skins is illegal, you have a good chance of passing through Customs without a 2,500-credit fine. If you do get caught, load your saved position and keep trying until you clear Customs untouched."

THIS ACT of smuggling should push funds well beyond the 1,000 mark. Then, to avoid attack, ply your trade only between Boston Base and the space stations around Earth in the Sol System. Trade robots from Barnards to Sol and luxury goods from Sol back to Barnards but do not return to Merlin until you are bigger and stronger.

In coming articles we will be looking at Shareware and Bulletin Boards, in addition to news of games from the top-end of the market. We would like to hear all your comments, recommendations and frustrations and, when possible, we will pass on appeals for help from the flummoxed. Write to Computer Games, at the *Times* address mentioned earlier.



No wonder he's Mr Happy. He's worth more than a Mr Holbein.

On 3rd July 1984, "Portrait of a scholar" by Hans Holbein went for £1,450, 000. A piffling sum compared to the value of portraits of Mr Men by Roger Hargreaves.

Since 1973, Mr Happy and Co. have appeared on everything from yoghurt pots to a Japanese commercial for a gas company. That's not counting the TV series or the 60 million books sold to date.

An original painting can be put under lock and key, but how do you protect something like Mr Men, which has so many copies in circulation?

Well, to stop anyone getting any funny ideas, all the characters are registered trade marks.

After all, if you want to prevent somebody stealing your ideas it's an advantage if you can prove that you own them in the first place.

That's why, girls and boys, success stories like Mr Men begin with The Patent Office.

We offer impartial advice on all aspects of 'intellectual property'- trade marks, patents, and registered designs, to safeguard your work. So, don't be Mr Silly, write or Freephone for more information.

To: Ted Blake. Please send me your free information pack. The Patent Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent, NP9 1RH. Tel 0800 318654.

Name **Title** **Address**

Postcode **Telephone** PAT TMS2

The Patent Office

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